

## Exit West Group Research Project

Mohsin Hamid shows through his novel *Exit West* that fiction has the power to foster empathy and understanding about the refugee crisis. But, as Viet Thanh Nguyen says in his introduction to *The Displaced*, "Literature changes the world of readers and writers, but literature does not change the world until people get out of their chairs, go out in the world, and do something to transform the conditions of which the literature speaks" (20). To answer Nguyen's call, you and your classmates will conduct research that can inform others about the crisis and how to get involved.

Your group will select a country with a current refugee crisis, considering the following questions:

- What are its primary causes (political, social, environmental)?
- Where are the refugees in your selected country fleeing to? What challenges do they face there?
- How has the world responded to this crisis? Consider the actions taken by the global community, the policies of host countries, and the role of humanitarian aid organizations.
- How can individuals take action in response to this crisis?

Countries:

- |  |               |
|--|---------------|
| • South Sudan  | • Myanmar     |
| • Democratic Republic of the Congo                   | • Syria       |
| • Nigeria  | • Venezuela   |
| • Central America (El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras) | • Ukraine     |
|  | • Afghanistan |

Together with your groupmates, you will create a website to convey your research in an engaging and informative way that can be easily shared with others, raising awareness that can inspire people to take action.

Your website should:

- Include a combination of data and statistics, images/videos, and words
- Provide refugee testimony, either through embedded videos or quoted material
- Include interactive elements like maps, infographics, or surveys
- Be organized, engaging and easy to navigate for users

## Website Presentation Rubric

Criteria	Fully Meets	Mostly Meets	Partially Meets	Does Not Yet Meet
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses 6-8 sources</li> <li>• All sources are credible and useful</li> <li>• Includes a bibliography that is properly formatted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses 3-5 sources</li> <li>• All sources are credible and useful</li> <li>• Includes a bibliography that is mostly properly formatted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses only 2 sources and/or sources are not credible and useful</li> <li>• A bibliography is present but has several formatting errors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only 1 or no sources used</li> <li>• Does not include a bibliography</li> </ul>
Content	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content is thorough, accurate, and engaging</li> <li>• Demonstrates clear understanding of the topic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content is clear and accurate</li> <li>• Demonstrates a solid understanding of the topic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content is somewhat accurate</li> <li>• Understanding of the topic is basic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Content is inaccurate, unclear, or incomplete</li> <li>• Little to no understanding demonstrated</li> </ul>
Design and Visual Appeal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website is well-organized with clear, logical navigation</li> <li>• Effective use of headings, menus, links enhances user experience</li> <li>• Creative and visually appealing design that makes effective use of images, color, and fonts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website is organized with logical navigation</li> <li>• Heading and links are mostly clear and supports user experience</li> <li>• Design is visually appealing with appropriate images, color, and fonts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website has some organization, but navigation may be unclear</li> <li>• Headings and links could be more effective</li> <li>• Design is somewhat visually appealing, but some design choices are distracting or ineffective</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website is poorly organized, making navigation difficult</li> <li>• Headings and links are confusing or missing and hinders the user experience</li> <li>• Design lacks visual appeal with poor use of images, color and fonts</li> </ul>
Group Work and Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All members participated equally throughout the process and remained focused on the task</li> <li>• Class time was always used effectively and efficiently</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members mostly participated equally throughout the process and remained focused on the task</li> <li>• Class time was mostly used effectively and efficiently</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members sometimes participated equally in the process and/or were sometimes distracted from the task</li> <li>• Class time was sometimes used effectively and efficiently</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Members did not collaborate together and were often distracted from the task</li> <li>• Class time was not used effectively and efficiently</li> </ul>

Language and Mechanics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Writing is clear and engaging</li><li>● Website has been thoroughly edited for spelling, grammar, and punctuation with minimal to no errors</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Writing is clear</li><li>● Website has been mostly edited for spelling, grammar, and punctuation; a few errors do not interfere with the presentation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Writing has some errors that distract from meaning</li><li>● Website have been partially edited for spelling, grammar, and punctuation; several errors interfere with the presentation</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Writing has numerous errors, making it difficult to understand</li><li>● Several errors in spelling, grammar, and punctuation distract from the presentation</li></ul>
------------------------	---	---	--	--