**Group Symbolism Project**

Your assignment as a group is to create and present a poster that shows how your group’s destiny word is meaningful in the book *Speak*.

**Requirements:**

1. Your poster should include a headline that communicates your group’s interpretation of the word’s place in the book. Remember, headlines should be short and clearly understood.
2. Your poster should include a well-developed analysis paragraph about the symbolism of your destiny word in *Speak.* (See below for more complete instructions and an example.)
3. Your poster should include visuals (pictures, drawings, illustrations) that represent the word and your group’s analysis of its importance in *Speak.*

Everyone in your group should contribute to designing and presenting the poster.

**Instructions for Analysis Paragraph**

Your analysis paragraph should be **at least 8 sentences long** and **follow TEXT format**:

1. Topic sentence.
2. Example #1
3. Explanation of example
4. Example #2
5. Explanation of example
6. Example #3
7. Explanation of example
8. Tie-up/concluding sentence

Your paragraph should include **at least 3 direct quotes** and include the page number for each quote in parentheses at the end of the sentence that has the quote. There is an example paragraph at the bottom of this page.

**Example Paragraph**

**(a)** In the book *Speak,* the author uses trees as a symbol for Melinda’s emotional state. **(b)** For example, early in the book, Melinda tries to draw a trees but it looks like her “second grade version” and she feels that it is “hopeless” at showing any emotion (p 32). **(c)** This version of the tree matches her mood because at this point in the story she feels very discouraged and is afraid to show anyone her feelings. **(d)** Later on, Melinda continues trying to make a tree; in her mind, she is able to imagine drawing a “strong oak tree,” but everything she creates seems as “dead” as a bunch of “toothpicks” (p. 78). **(e)** This tree is a nice symbol of how Melinda is struggling to achieve any outward success at being the strong person she wants to be. **(f)** However, things start to turn around a little bit when Melinda’s lab partner, David Petrakis, helps her draw a tree that is “pretty good” and definitely better than anything she has done so far (p. 110). **(g)** This improvement in a tree matches the better mood that Melinda feels when she is encouraged by David’s friendliness. **(h)** As these examples show, readers can learn a lot about Melinda’s emotional state by paying attention to her attempts to draw trees.