

Figure 2.11: Reimagining Texts to Convey New Insights

Directions: Transform a scene from our class text and re-envision it from a new perspective in order to convey a different meaning. Follow the steps to think about the changes you'd like to make and why.

Step 1: Identify the aspect to reimagine

Consider the following questions.

- What did you like or dislike about the beginning of the book? Explain your response.
- What did you like or dislike about the ending of the book? Explain your response.
- What were your favorite parts of this story or your least favorite? Explain your response.

Step 2: Analyze

Consider the following questions.

- How might the characters in this text behave differently if they were from a different socioeconomic class, had a different skin color, were a different gender or expressed a different gender identity, and so on?
- How might the theme of this story be different if the characters made different choices in their words or actions?
- If you could use these characters to tell a different story, what story would you tell?
- What changes would this new story require?
- In this different story, what message would you like to convey?
- Why is this new story important to tell?

Step 3: Create

Using your answers, make the following decisions.

- What message do you want to express?
- Through what format do you want to tell it? (Choose one: spin-off, prequel, sequel, or reimagining.)

Using the following frame, explain how your work will convey this message.

My *prequel/sequel/spin-off/reimagining* adds/changes _____
in order to *show/express* _____.

Example: My reimagining changes the character of Jay Gatsby to a female named Jane Gatsby in order to show how much more harshly the reader would view Jane Gatsby if she made similar decisions to Jay Gatsby.

Step 4: Collaborate

Share your one-sentence pitch as you mix and mingle with your classmates. Your peers will offer abundant feedback beginning with the following frames:

- Some of the strengths I notice are _____.
- I really like how you _____.
- I'm also wondering if _____.

If you want to work alone, incorporate your peers' feedback if you feel that it will strengthen your idea.

If you are going to partner with classmates, decide whose idea you're going to work on or if you're going to combine your ideas.