**STORY: English Students Save the Day!**

You and your friends have been investigating a biochemist on suspicions that he is making bioweapons. His evil plans are locked in a black box in order to prevent you from finding them and destroying them. You must find the evil plans and destroy them or this mysterious villain will unleash a deadly virus in 30 minutes!

REQUIRED MATERIALS

* Large Lock Box
* Invisible ink pen and flashlight
* USB drive
* Hasp
* Directional Lock
* Key Lock
* 3 Digit Lock
* 4 Digit Lock
* Letter Lock
* Handout with all the hints on it

SETUP INSTRUCTIONS

1. Gather all required materials.
2. Set the locks to the following combinations:
	1. Direction Lock- Left, Down, Up, Right
	2. 3 Digit Lock- 202 (as of 4/30/18)
	3. 4 Digit Lock-6515 (as of 5/25/18)
	4. 5 Letter Lock- MIAAT
3. Put the hasp on the Large Lock Box and attach all the locks. Hide large lock box with all locks in the makerspace section.
4. Copy Hint #2 on the USB drive, and place the USB drive in the book *Sharing Posts: the spread of fake news* 070.4 CUR.
5. Place the key on page 390 of *Literature and Its Times* Vol 3.
6. Print Letter #2 and use the invisible ink to underline the words and letters that are highlighted below.

Hey Perry,

Even if these students figure out some of our clues, I doubt they will be brilliant enough to even find the locked box. That would require a true team effort! Still, let’s hope they don’t find it because what if, horror of horrors, they do prove to be smart enough to stop us in our tracks before we can finish our evil plans?! I don’t think that’s a true threat because they are teenagers, but you just never know. Some of them are quite brilliant. Hmmmm, maybe I should be more nervous. Hide this well!

Yours truly,

Dr. Mr. E.

(Find the box where things are made.)

1. Place Hint #1 and Letter #2 in the book return box. Tape Hint #1 on the flashlight. Tape Letter #2 somewhere in the book return box.
2. Set overhead timer to 30 minutes.
3. (The box will be hidden within the makerspace. Once they find the locked box, they have to answer 5 questions in order to get the handout to unlock the 5 locks. They should just be general questions about the library. Then they can start the handout and unlocking everything, for which they can be split into groups.)

Letter #1

Perry,

Soon our goals will be realized! We will be the evil genius masterminds in Duncan! Just a few steps remain until we unleash the terror we have worked so hard to create. Power will be ours, along with money. And the poor fools, they will never suspect the library as the starting point. As we discussed, I have hidden the secret plans in the locked box. The students at Byrnes will never crack the codes, unless they are willing to look in the library books to solve the puzzles. Let’s hide the secret light in the place where the books are returned because I don’t think most students even know where that is. They have to find the secret light to begin cracking the rest of our codes, so be sure it’s hidden there and hidden well. I leave everything in your good hands. They will never discover who I am!

Yours truly,

Dr. Mr. E.

Hint #1

This light, when shining, illuminates what otherwise cannot be seen. Do you have the brains to find the hidden clue?

Letter #2

Hey Perry,

Even if these students figure out some of our clues, I doubt they will be brilliant enough to even find the locked box. That would require a true team effort! Still, let’s hope they don’t find it because what if, horror of horrors, they do prove to be smart enough to stop us in our tracks before we can finish our evil plans?! I don’t think that’s a true threat because they are teenagers, but you just never know. Some of them are quite brilliant. Hmmmm, maybe I should be more nervous. Hide this well!

Yours truly,

Dr. Mr. E

Hint #2

It’s not that easy! I’ve hidden the key in a place where you might find a useful resource. I know most students read *to kill a mockingbird*, and some pesky teachers assign “research papers.” this helpful encyclopedia set explains literature and its times. Find the entry on *to kill a mockingbird*, and you’re one step closer to defeating me!

Handout

Direction Lock:

To unlock me, answer the following questions about DISCUS!

1. DISCUS is \_\_\_\_\_
2. a database that is free for anyone in the US.
3. a collection of books that you can use only in your library.
4. a collection of databases provided for South Carolina citizens.
5. a program that the public libraries pay for.
6. Your Spanish teacher wants you to research a Spanish-speaking country and find out statistics about that country. Which DISCUS database would provide you with the best information?
	1. Opposing Viewpoints
	2. CultureGrams
	3. Vocational and Career Collection
	4. Biography in Context
7. Your US History teacher asks you to research the history of Spartanburg County. In which database can you click on the various counties in South Carolina in order to learn more?
	1. StudySC
	2. Science Reference Center
	3. World Data Analyst
	4. Learning Express Library
8. Which of the following is NOT provided in the Bloom’s Literature database?
	1. Discussion questions
	2. Timelines
	3. Videos
	4. Answers to quizzes

KEY: A=Up B=Down C=Left D=Right

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Key Lock:

Muhahahahaha! You didn’t think it would be that easy?! You must find the key if you have any hope with this lock! It’s been safely placed inside the book *Sharing Posts: the spread of fake news*. I don’t think that book has ever been checked out, and I really should brush up on my knowledge of how to easily mislead people since I want to be an evil genius.

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4 Digit Lock:

Those pesky librarians are always changing things around...this time, they have adopted a new way to use online resources called MackinVIA. Apparently they have given each student their own login. Go to schoology and open the MackinVIA link. Open the Opposing Viewpoints database in DISCUS. Some people call me a bully (imagine that!) and I want to know just how many news articles are available for me to read under the bullying topic.

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5 Letter Lock:

I am such a good evil scientist because I know where to find answers to my questions! Answer each question below using DISCUS. Use the first letter of each answer to unlock the lock.

1. Open the TOPICSearch database and click on advanced search. Browse through the Current Events topics. You may wish to find reliable information about European \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in order to be an informed citizen!
2. Open the Bloom’s Literature database. You can choose to browse resources by Author, Character, or Work \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
3. Open the Explora for High Schools database. Click on the More button under Current Issues. Select Al Qaeda. One of the source types you can choose is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Journals.
4. You’re not sure what to read next and need some book recommendations. Your librarians tell you to open NoveList Plus. Click on “Teen” under “I’m in the mood for books that are…” The first option you can choose is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_-packed and suspenseful.
5. Your librarian advised you to open the Credo Reference database and use the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Pages feature to find more information about architecture.

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3 Digit Lock:

Your science teacher has assigned a research paper on nuclear weapons. Open the Science Reference Center database and type in nuclear weapons. Then limit your search to full text and scholarly (peer reviewed) journals. How many results did you get?

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NOOOOOOOOOO! You’ve found my secret plans!!!!!!!! Bunch of smart kids.