

## Required Summer Project 2009

Due: September 11, 2009  
Processed: by the first progress report  
Assessed: English test grade

This summer you have the opportunity to choose a project that deals with one of four major elements of the English curriculum:

- Writing
- Oral Communication
- Multimedia
- Reading

Although you are choosing only one project option (writing, oral communication, multimedia, reading), your project must also represent the theme for your grade. Please read the description for each theme before you begin.

### Themes:

#### **Ninth Grade: Discovery of Self**

The English I theme focuses on the discovery of self. Individuals transition through many stages of life. What are the forces and experiences that influence the development of an individual's identity?

#### **Tenth Grade: Individual in Society**

The World Literature/World Studies theme focuses on the individual in society. This theme explores the roles people fill in society and how those roles change who a person is individually. What affects or changes a person's values, ideals, and morals? What impact does an individual have on society itself?

#### **Eleventh Grade: The American Dream vs. Nightmare**

Many people have their vision of what the American Dream is, yet many times while striving to create this dream, a nightmare is the result. Consider what the American Dream is to you personally or to others coming to the country.

#### **Twelfth Grade: Global Perspective**

Growing up within a certain culture, people are limited in their perspective of other cultures. As humans, we look through the lens of what we know. Step outside your own cultural lens by considering how we fit into the dynamics of the world in which we live by examining a new perspective of life.

## Project Options

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### Writing Project:

This option will require you to compile a mini portfolio of your writing centered upon your grade's theme. Each grade level will have a minimum page requirement for the portfolio.

#### Page Length Requirements for Writing Option:

Grade Level	Required Length
9 <sup>th</sup> Grade	2-3 pages
10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	2-3 pages
11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	3-4 pages
12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	3-4 pages

All writing pieces must be typed in size 12 font and double-spaced. The writing portfolio may contain one piece of writing, or it may contain several pieces of writing of the same or varying genres- it is up to you as the writer to create a portfolio that is to your liking.

### Freshmen:

These pieces should focus on your own self-discovery. The following are examples of pieces that you *may* choose to write, but are not limited to:

- Keep a journal tracing your own path to self discovery
- Write a short story illustrating the transitions an individual progresses on his/her path to self discovery

### Sophomores:

These pieces should focus on the individual's role and responsibility within the larger society. The following are examples of pieces that you *may* choose to write, but are not limited to:

- Write a formal piece of writing analyzing what your role is within society
- Create a song/poem illustrating our place in the world

### Juniors:

These pieces should focus on the American Dream and to what extent this dream can be realized. The following are examples of pieces that you *may* choose to write, but are not limited to:

- Reflect upon your idea of the American Dream and/or American Nightmare
- Write a journal from the perspective of an immigrant traveling to the US to obtain the American dream

### Seniors:

These pieces should focus on global perspective and ways in which you or others have been forced to look at something from a different perspective. Step into someone else's shoes.

The following are examples of pieces that you *may* choose to write, but are not limited to:

- Perspective piece- i.e. Become an object in a foreign land witnessing something (The house in which a family lives/the country itself/a blanket of a child)
- Write a vignette from the perspective of a child in a village in Africa, portraying snippets of daily life.

### Types of Writing Suggestions:

- Personal Narrative
  - Memoir/Biography
  - Journal/ Diary
  - Poetry- Found, Free Form, Verse, etc.
  - Persuasive Essay/Opinion Piece
  - Perspective Piece
    - Character/Person
    - Object
  - Letter- Informal or Formal
  - Critical Analysis- Text to Self, Text to Text, Text to World
  - Thesis Driven Piece
  - Vingnette
  - Compare/Contrast Piece
  - Short Story
  - Short Short Story
  - Script
  - Chapters/Excerpts of Larger Piece
  - Reflection/Response- To a poem, quote, community service, etc.
  - Freewriting
  - Internal Monologue
  - Song lyrics
  - Descriptive Writing
  - Sensory Writing
  - Stream of Conscious (ex. "Girl")
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### Oral Communication Project:

Students may select to present a live or videotaped presentation on

- a memorized speech
- an extemporaneous speech
- an impromptu speech.

#### **A memorized speech is written and committed to memory beforehand**

The student may either memorize a work from another writer or present an original piece of literature. Some possibilities may include: poems, famous speeches, dialogue from a novel or a short story, etc.

#### **An extemporaneous speech is prepared beforehand and spoken from notes or an outline**

The student may use technology as PowerPoint to enhance the presentation as a visual aid. Some possibilities may include: an analysis of a work of literature, a persuasive presentation, a comparison/contrast of two characters within a piece of literature or two separate works, etc.

#### **An impromptu speech is given without preparation.**

The student is required to recall information from the reading, summarize information, or explain a concept. Some possibilities may include: a novel you read during the summer, a work of literature you read during the previous school year, etc.

### Your presentation should include:

- a thesis and brief introduction of the upcoming information
- transitions when you move from topic to topic
- a summary that includes the main points you presented

### Students will be assessed on the following standards:

Freshmen requirement is 1 to 2 minutes that addresses the theme of Discovery of Self

Sophomore requirement is 2 to 3 minutes that addresses "Individual in Society"

Junior requirement is 3 to 4 minutes that addresses "The American Dream versus Nightmare"

Senior requirement is 4 to 5 minutes that addresses "Global Perspective"

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## Multimedia Project:

Students may select to demonstrate their understanding of their grade's theme through one of the following choices:

- Design, create, and upload a webpage or wiki
- Design, create, and upload a podcast
- Design, create, and upload a film

**A webpage or a wiki is an online source of information designed to be interactive with an Internet user.**

The student may elect to create a page with blogs, polls, external links, embedded video and/or sound, games, message boards/forums, and/or other modes of interaction.

**A podcast is a downloadable audio program similar to a radio show and intended to share information with a listener.**

The student may create a fictional or non-fictional radio show that integrates musical pieces, interviews, commentaries, discussions, debates, lessons, tours, and/or other modes of imparting information.

**A film is a video available online for download or in-browser viewing.**

The student may create a fictional or non-fictional film that utilizes various camera shots, angles, and effects. The film should have a cohesive story line including exposition, conflict, and resolution.

### Audio/Video Requirements:

- 9<sup>th</sup> graders: 3-5 minutes
- 10<sup>th</sup> graders: 4-6 minutes
- 11<sup>th</sup> graders: 5-7 minutes
- 12<sup>th</sup> graders: 6-8 minutes

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## Reading Project:

### The Novel:

Your choice must connect specifically to the theme for your grade.

### The Product:

You must annotate the book you read and turn the annotated book in to your English teacher on September 9<sup>th</sup>. Annotating the book includes writing notes in the margins of the book. These notes can include:

- questions
- reactions
- connections
- interpretations
- definitions of unfamiliar words
- predictions

For those of you who may be using library books, you can use sticky notes or write your notes on a separate piece of paper with identified page numbers.

A list of books that you might find interesting is in the TRHS library, however you are not reduced to the choices on this list.