**Quarter 1 Summative Assessment (100 summative points)**

**L2P 2.0**

**Objective**: As young adults fast approaching the voting age, it is important to know the power of the single voice. Now that we are on the eve of a new presidency, it is more important than ever to bring our concerns to our future Commander-in-Chief’s ears. Writing a letter (or using some other medium) will be our way to do our part as members of American society to give a voice to those who may not know how best to express their concerns. We will give a voice to those people.

**Unit Overview**: In this unit, we have looked at many samples of letters written to previous presidents, addressed the effectiveness of these letters, and we have explored a variety of topics relevant to our own lives. After having selecting a topic relevant and important to your own world view, we must now create, compose, draft, edit, and, finally, publish our “letters” to the next President of the United States. Using L2P 2.0 as our publishing platform, we will present our letters to the country, showing America that East Hartford High School is ready for the next administration and that we expect our voices to be heard.

**Steps**: Using the *College Ready Writing Project* as our guide, we will choose an issue worth writing about, gather information from multiple sources, develop a claim, and write a complete argument draft.

**Next Steps**: After all students have completed their final draft, the time for final publication has come. We will use the *Letters to the Next President* website (https://letters2president.org/) as our final publication platform. Some of you will extend your draft into a publishable essay-letter and some of you will choose to publish your argument draft into another medium (vlog, music, photo-journal, etc.).

**Portfolio of Work (7 separate pieces kept in a manila folder)**: Since this project will take individual shape for each student, you will be scored upon the components as well as the final argument draft. The additional publication of your “letter” will be the metaphorical “frosting on the cake.” Therefore, you will be collectively scored on these components of your final work in a portfolio. These components will be:

* *20 Formative Points - A Copy of Your Original Quicklist* (10 items) retyped into a single document. These must be listed and each followed with a single sentence of why that issue falls into that category.
* *30 Formative Points - A Record of Your Brainstorming*: Select your single most compelling issue from the Quicklist and please answer 6 of the 9 guiding questions for this issue:
  + Why does this issue matter to you?
  + Why does this topic matter to a larger population?
  + How does your personal experience connect to the nation?
  + Who else does this issue matter to?
  + Who is affected by the issue?
  + What are the causes and effects of this issue?
  + What can be done in response to this issue?
  + What are the different perspectives of this issue? Does everyone believe in the same thing?
  + What can a President or the government do about the issue?
* *30 Formative Points - A Record of Your Research*: After having selected the issue that you feel is most important, you completed some research on that topic. Please create a typed version of the 3 “4Square Cards” that you created during the days that we met in the library computer lab.
* *20 Formative Points - A Final Version of Your Refined Claim*: You should first record your initial topic a “Gut” Claim. This should be followed with your Refined Claim which can be transcribed into a sentence or two.
* *50 Formative Points - A Map of Your Organization*: After we address these following two strategies in class, you will select one to organize your letter. These are called “Organizing with the Note-Catcher” and “Organizing with the Models.” Whichever strategy feels like a better fit with your writing style will be used for this section of your portfolio.
* *40 Formative Points - Evidence of Adding Sources*: 2 Samples of your source based evidence in a “Sentence Frame” and 2 samples of your source-based evidence in a “Say/Mean/Matter” graphic organizer.
* *30 Formative Points - Revision*: Revision is not editing. Revision is “seeing” your work differently. One way to accomplish this is to add an anecdote to your writing. Now that you have the bones of your writing ready, it is time to add the flavor. Anecdotal evidence lends “voice” to writing that simple research does not. This is what makes your letter *yours*. We will conference on your writing at this time and throughout the editing process.

This portion of your portfolio comprises the vast majority of your effort. *It will be covered in the Formative Category of your Quarter Average and is worth 220 total points.*

Your **Final Argument Draft** will be the end product of all this work. It should be close to perfectly composed after all the planning, research, revision, and editing that you’ve accomplished in two weeks. It should be of publishable quality and in a form ***of your choice***! This means that you can write a final essay letter or compose a song or produce a vlog, or... You need only think it up and present me with a proposal to qualify. No matter the final product, all students will be assessed using the following criteria:

* **Claim**: The text introduces a clear, arguable claim that can be supported by reasons and evidence
* **Development**: The text provides sufficient data and evidence to back up the claim while pointing out the strengths and limitations of both the claim and counterclaim. The text provides a conclusion that supports the argument.
* **Audience**: The text anticipates the audience’s knowledge level, concerns, values, and possible biases about the claim. The text addresses the specific needs of the audience.
* **Cohesion**: The text uses words, phrases, and clauses as well as varied syntax to link the major sections of the text, creates cohesion and clarifies the relationship between the claim and reasons, between reasons and evidence, and between claims and counterclaims.
* **Style and Conventions**: The text presents a formal, objective tone that demonstrates standard English conventions of usage and mechanics while attending to the norms of the discipline (i.e. MLA, APA, etc.).

Enjoy yourself with this assignment. It isn’t often that we get such freedom to produce something worthy of our effort. As famed civil rights leader, Martin Luther King Jr., said, “No work is insignificant. All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence.” 