**Weekly Activity Instructions – How this all works**

**Monday: Current Events**

1) Choose a newspaper (paper or online news source) and find an article that appeals to you. Article should be at least 4 paragraphs long and have enough "meat" to it that you can summarize the article and add your own opinion to it.

2) Read the article to make sure you understand what it is talking about.

3) Write a paragraph (4 - 5 sentences) summarizing the article. Be sure you have factual information included in your summary. Make sure you state where you found your article (which newspaper / online source). WHAT ARE THE MAIN POINTS THE ARTICLE IS TRYING TO GET ACROSS TO THE READER?

4. Write another paragraph (4 - 5 sentences) with your opinion on the article.

* What did you think about the article? If the article made you feel a certain way, share your thoughts. Some ideas to consider, depending on the type of article you choose: Do you agree / disagree with what is being said? Did you learn something new? Are you more informed about what is going on in your area, the nation, the world? Has the article inspired you or made you want to "take action" and do something?

**Tuesday: Trailers** (Based only on novels or true stories)

1) Give a review for a movie trailer (4 – 5 sentences). Make sure to explain your review.

* Really think about what did or didn’t you like about it. The actors, the plot, the setting. Did you know the person the movie is based off? Did you like the fact that it was historical or sci-fi? Why would you go see it? Why wouldn’t you see it?

**Wednesday: Analyze This**

1) Read or view a poem, photo, quote, or clip and write (4-5 sentences) an in-depth analysis on the piece and how it correlates to our current classroom topic or theme.

* What is the poem, photo, quote, or clip about? What is the main idea? Why is it relevant to our current topic or theme? What makes it interesting? What conclusion can you draw from the texts / clip? Overall thoughts?

**Thursday: iRead**

1) Choose any literature or informational texts you want and read uninterrupted for 30 minutes.

2) Write (4 – 5 sentences) about what you read. (This can help with processing and retention)

* Briefly summarize what it was about. Did you enjoy and what are you overall thoughts?

**Friday: Journaling / Grammar**

1) 15 min – Journal about your week, goals, plans, anything you want. THIS IS YOUR PERSONAL SPACE!

* Keep your hand moving, lose control, be specific, don’t think, don’t worry about punctuation, spelling or grammar, you are free to write the worst junk in America, just do it with abandon!

2) 15 min – Grammar will be reviewed and discussed as a class.

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