

# What connects us as humans?

We've spent the past 10 months reading a variety of genres and texts from a multitude of perspectives. For each one, we tried to connect these to our own lives and find the **universals** evident in these works. (Those pieces of us that transcend *time, gender, culture, age, intellect, etc.*) Not only have we talked about the universals present, but we've also discussed the **values** exemplified within the different cultures, including our lives. These are the things that separate different cultures, but also the things that bring us together.

For your final you will answer the above question by bringing together universals (from the literature we read this year) and displaying human connections across cultures. Essentially, you will be **synthesizing this information and connecting it to you, us, we as humans...**

## **Requirements:**

- ★ Answer the question, "What connects us as humans?" with a specific universal concept that shows the common element of our connection as human beings.\*

*IE. Humans require growth; which can only happen through relationships and personal ambition.*

\*Be mindful that your universals are **not**: *plot/archetypal structure, a rule, one word, bumper sticker sayings*

- ★ Write a **Spoken Word Poem** in which you develop this universal and your thoughts on it. As you write your poem, you must keep in mind the following requirements:

Your poem is 120-180 seconds when performed (Under or over loses points! ☹)

You reference at least 3 texts (specific characters, plot lines, symbols, etc.) from what we have read this year

<i>The Crucible</i>	Emily Dickinson poetry	William Cullen Bryant ( <i>Thanatopsis</i> )	William Carlos Williams poetry ( <i>Imagism</i> )
<i>The Great Gatsby</i>	Anne Bradstreet poetry	Edgar Allan Poe short stories /poetry	Hawthorne ( <i>Dr. Heidegger's Experiment</i> )
<i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>	T.S. Eliot poetry ( <i>Prufrock</i> )	Emerson/Thoreau writings	Harlem Renaissance poetry

You must include at least 3 literary devices

Simile	Alliteration	Rhyming	Irony	ETC.
Metaphor	Imagery	Hyperbole	Repetition	
Personification	Onomatopoeia	Word Play/Pun	Assonance	

You must include at least one **specific modern day reference** to support your universal.

Your answer is **grounded in and focused on the texts**. (You will need to use *some quotes* to establish your credibility!) This is your chance to show us/me what you've learned this year about literature's connection to us as human beings.

- ★ Accompanying the spoken word poem you create to answer the big question should be a **1-2 page, typed** (12 pt. font, Times New Roman, double-spaced, uploaded to turnitin.com) **reflection/explanation** of your answer.

How does your poem answer the question?

What texts did you specifically reference?

Why/How do the referenced works relate, prove, support, Etc. your answer?

What literary devices did you use?

- ★ **On final's day**, you will present a:

120-180 second performance of your poem

Well-rehearsed (extra credit for memorized) performance of your poem

A performance that gives the message meaning (Voice, energy, posture, hand gestures...)

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- \_\_\_\_\_/ 20 Your presentation of the poem uses voice/movement to give meaning to your universal.
- \_\_\_\_\_/ 10 Your presentation of the poem is between 120-180 seconds.
- \_\_\_\_\_/ 10 Your presentation of the poem is clearly rehearsed (Memorized? +10 pts ☺).
- \_\_\_\_\_/ 20 Your answer to the question is specific, thoughtful, meaningful, & rooted in the texts we read this year.
- \_\_\_\_\_/ 15 Your universal is accurate, thoughtful, and connects to the texts you chose. (It's not plot/archetypal structure, a rule, one word, bumper sticker saying)
- \_\_\_\_\_/ 10 Your poem includes a specific modern day example(s) that effectively supports your universal.
- \_\_\_\_\_/ 15 Your poem references at least 3 texts we read this year in a meaningful way (Direct quotations are included in some fashion).
- \_\_\_\_\_/ 15 Your poem uses at least 3 different literary devices in a meaningful way.
- \_\_\_\_\_/ 10 Your poem is creative, polished, final quality (typed, 12 pt., & double-spaced), and has evidence of serious thought.
- \_\_\_\_\_/ 10 Your reflection/explanation is 1-2 pages (no more; no less), proofread, well-written, (typed, TNR, 12 pt., & double-spaced).
- \_\_\_\_\_/ 15 Your reflection/explanation provides depth to your understanding of the universal & shows the 3 texts'/modern example(s) connections to the universal & Spoken Word Poem.
- \_\_\_\_\_/ 10 Your poem and reflection/explanation is uploaded to turnitin.com before the final.
- \_\_\_\_\_/ 15 Your participation and support during presentations is active and engaged

Comments:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_ / 175