**9th Grade Monthly Response Papers – Semester One Project**

**Semester One Project**

**Response Papers:** Students must complete one response paper during the month of September, October, and November. Each response paper must be at least 1 page long, typed and formatted in MLA format. Response papers should analyze the written work while making intelligent and analytical connections to the topics, themes, and other works discussed in class.

* Each assignment is worth 20 points. These monthly reflection papers are a tool to help students learn task and time management, the benefit of turning assignments in early, or on time, and how to multi-task while completing weekly homework, readings, and various long-term and self-delegated assignments.

**Assignment Breakdown**

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| **Formal Assessment – 60% or more** | **Informal Assessments – 40% or less** |
| Final exams and midterms  Standards-based tests and quizzes  Culminating projects  Essays (all types)  Lab reports  Presentations  Performances  Other demonstrations of proficiency | Small projects (formative)  Practice tests/quizzes  Checking for understanding activities  Homework/Out of Class Preparation  Drafts  Practice work  Classwork  Student involvement/participation  Class activities  Journals  Warm-ups |

\* Semester projects will be changing at the turn of the semester. At the beginning of the next semester we will discuss the changes and new expectations in class.

September \* Due Thursday the 29th

October \* Due Friday the 28th

November \* Due Wednesday the 30th

**Week One:** Chose the literary work and begin reading.

**Week One (weekend):** Begin researching the author and brainstorming your response to the literary work.

**Week Two:** Begin the first draft of your response paper. Come to tutoring on Wednesday from 3:30-5:00pm to ask Ms. Gilmore questions about the assignment.

**Week Two (weekend):** Begin the first draft of your response paper.

**Week Three:** Edit the first draft of your response paper. Does your paper address the rubric? Does your paper meet the minimum page requirement? Have you answered all of the guiding questions for your category? Come to tutoring on Wednesday from 3:30-5:00pm to have Ms. Gilmore look over your rough draft!

**Week Three (weekend):** Finalize your response paper (second draft). Use spell check (grammarly.com is a great tool!), read your paper aloud to someone else, and have a peer or adult look over your response paper.

**Week Four:** TURN IN YOUR RESPONSE PAPER in class or via email.

1. Response Papers: September (choose one)

- “Thumbprint” by Eve Merriam

<http://www.gips.org/assets/site/Westridge/media/8th%20Grade%20Poetry/8_Thumbprint.pdf>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UM1wRv_mOCI>

- “The Gift of Magi” by O. Henry

<https://americanenglish.state.gov/files/ae/resource_files/1-the_gift_of_the_magi_0.pdf>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEYKlV0vkIs>

2. Response Paper: October (choose one)

- “Mirror” by Sylvia Plath

<https://allpoetry.com/poem/8498499-Mirror-by-Sylvia-Plath>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6nZht4WMoMo>

- “The Monkey’s Paw” by W.W. Jacobs

<http://gaslight.mtroyal.ab.ca/mnkyspaw.htm>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ugjegclLNhM>

3. Response Paper: November (choose one)

- “Eleven” by Sandra Cisneros

<http://lcps.k12.nm.us/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Cisneros-Eleven.pdf>

- “Up-hill” by Christina Rossetti

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems-and-poets/poems/detail/45002>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z9rwMdna2mA>