

Tuesday, May 5

Language & Literature	
6 th Grade:	<p>Hello, 6th Graders! We hope you are continuing to stay safe and well!</p> <p>This week we are including a link to a calendar. This calendar has 30 ACTIONS FOR HAPPINESS that you can choose to do at any time and on any day. We are asking you to choose one, or as many as you want to do for the week, and then send us an email telling us about the following things:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Which one(s) did you do, and why?2. How did it make you feel?3. If you were to do this again, would you recommend it to a loved one? Who? <p>We look forward to hearing your responses!</p> <p>A couple of other things...</p> <p>Please let us know if you have any questions about your work on Canvas. Be sure to submit any work you do so we can see it. There is no need to email us your responses. You can submit your work right there on Canvas. Here is a video you can watch on how to submit work in Canvas and a blog you can access for more support and some extension activities.</p> <p>Also, make sure to fill out the survey that was sent out regarding locker clean out for your personal items!</p> <p>Finally, just a reminder that our office hours each week are on Wednesday from 1-2. You can connect with us in any way you choose (email, SchoolCNXT, Teams). In the meantime, get some fresh air, drink lots of water, and enjoy an amazing book this week. We miss you!</p> <p>Vogel: kristin.vogel@dmschools.org *use this link for Vogel's office hours this week Freeman: shanna.freeman@dmschools.org Smithman gabrielle.smithman@dmschools.org</p>
7 th Grade:	<p>Hi, 7th Graders and Families,</p> <p>This week we will continue to meet in Teams and work through 3rd personal, formal writing. Our goal is to have three body paragraphs done by the end of this week. If you need some assistance (ideas or graphic organizers), you can visit this link put together by Mrs. Cooney: https://sway.office.com/BvmiNI2Ry7gUq8NK?ref=Link.</p> <p>Those students who are working in Canvas, please let us know if we can be of help. While we are focusing our efforts on formal writing review, any reading or writing that you are doing is valuable. Try to do some reading for fun as you go through the week and let us know what you are reading. We are interested!</p> <p>As before, know that we miss you all and are here to help.</p> <p>Mr. Severson, Mrs. Cooney, Ms. Nielsen</p>

8th
Grade:

Hello, 8th Graders!

The 8th Grade Language & Literature team hopes that you are doing well as we continue our virtual connections and bring you this week's communication. Our message this week connects directly to the Canvas coursework and the essential skill that good readers rely on for deeper understanding—asking questions.

As Albert Einstein once said, "The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existing" (<https://www.businessinsider.com/25-best-quotes-from-albert-einstein-2014-8#on-the-hustle-25>). This week's Canvas is all about asking questions to gain deeper understanding, especially when faced with new information or unfamiliar reading. As you dig deeper into the concepts of immigration, past experiences, and personal identity-- we would like to challenge your curiosity and questioning skills in a personal exploration/connection assignment.

This week, we would like you to create a MINI POWERPOINT (2-4 slides) that includes the following:

- ◎ **Title Slide: Name, Date, Title--Week 2 L& L Challenge Task**
- ◎ **Slide 1: Central Idea & Digging Deeper**
 - **What is the CENTRAL IDEA of the Canvas materials that you have read so far?**
 - **What questions would you ask to gain an even deeper understanding of the sources from Week 1 and Week 2?**
 - **What connections do you see between the sources you have looked at and current events? Give examples.**
- ◎ **Slide 2: What is YOUR immigration story? What is your personal connection to the sources you have been exploring?**
 - **Explore/Explain your story. What do you want to know, or what can you tell us about your own history in a country of immigrants?**
 - **Create a PPT slide(s) with words and images that show you digging deeper into your understanding of your own story and your connections to the BIG ideas that you have looked at in Canvas in the past two weeks.**

Beyond the option of working on Canvas and this challenge assignment, we would like to remind you to keep watching for email updates from your teachers about Teams meetings and Office Hours that they can be reached. As always, you can email us at any time to check in, ask questions, and just let us know how things are going with you!

Until next week--Be safe, make good choices, and keep in touch!

Your 8th Grade Language & Literature Team,

- Ms. Johnson--katie.johnson@dmschools.org
- Mrs. Cooney--hillari.cooney@dmschools.org
- Mrs. Overland--ashley.overland@dmschools.org
- Mrs. Stringer--susan.stringer@dmschools.org

Individuals & Societies

6th
Grade:

Hello, Students!

This week, we are asking you to think about the following prompt and email us your response.

What are 5 ways geography impacts the way you live?

As always, we encourage you to keep up with current events by watching CNN10.

Best,

Mrs. Sereg & Miss Tharp

7th
Grade

Check out [this list](#) of human rights activists you've likely not heard of. Choose one of them to research a bit about online.

Next, pick 5 of the 8 questions from the box below. Write your answers to the questions in your own words and then send them to your Global Studies teacher (with the added bonus of making our day!).

Here are our emails: kathryn.mccormick@dmschools.org & barry.thomas@dmschools.org

1. What human right did this person try to protect?
2. What form of action did this person take to improve the world and expand human rights?
3. What was a hard or challenging experience the person went through, and how did it change him/her?
4. What are 2 words that describe this person? (*Their personality, not appearance*) Explain why you picked each.
5. What is something you found out that you have in common with this person?
6. What would you say is this person's biggest achievement? Why?
7. What's a question that you'd like to ask this person about their experience/perspective/work? (And why ask it?)
8. What is a symbol you would choose to represent this person? And why do you think it's a good symbol?

8th
Grade:

Hello, 8th Graders:

This week's Canvas course is loaded with outstanding learning opportunities related to the conditions found in the North and the South PRIOR to the Civil War, the causes of the Civil War, the meaning of secession, some of the rationales set forth in the Southern state's declarations of secession, and the infamous Dred Scott decision, often referred to as the worst Supreme Court decision in history. Remember to submit your thoughts on these voluntary learning opportunities to Mr. Thomas and Mr. O'Connor in Word documents or through One Drive.

To help you analyze the causes of the Civil War for the Canvas Course, review the always funny and informative Crash Course U.S. History videos #20 found here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rY9zHNOjGrs> and #21 found here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GzTrKccmj_I

Both of these were sent out in earlier Tuesday communications. The Crash Course on the Election of 1860 and the Causes of the Civil War was NOT previously provided but is also excellent. You can find it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=roNmeOOJCDY>

The Dred Scott decision (Scott v. Sandford—it should have been Sanford, but a clerk misspelled the name as Sandford) is introduced to you in this week's Canvas Course. We'd like to provide you with an opportunity to dig a little deeper into this notorious decision. You can start by watching the videos found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1qIXBNwmoTw> and here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QR-VTrPcMDg>

After watching the video, please answer the following questions in a Word or OneDrive document, and send them to Mr. Thomas or Mr. O'Connor.

1. Explain who Dred Scott was. Consider the following questions while answering:
 - Why was there a court case about him?
 - What was his hope?
2. How did the decision change the status of African Americans?
3. Imagine and describe how African Americans might have felt about themselves and their future after the Dred Scott decision.
4. What were the primary effects of the Dred Scott case?

We are also pleased to let you know, courtesy of our wonderful librarian Mrs. Kent, that the entire Ken Burns documentary series The Civil War, can now be streamed for free at this site:

<https://iowa.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/the-civil-war-full-film/the-civil-war/>

If you run into any challenges or have any questions as you work through this week's learning, send an email to Mr. Thomas (barry.thomas@dmschools.org) or Mr. O'Connor (david.oconnor@dmschools.org) and we'll get back to you with help quickly. To make sure you get an immediate response, email either of us during our Office Hours on Friday between 2-4 p.m. for Mr. Thomas and 3-5 p.m. for Mr. O'Connor.

Stay healthy and keep learning!

Mr. O'Connor
Mr. Thomas