English 1

*Of Mice & Men*

**Research, Report & Presentation (130 points)**

Each student will receive a topic from the list below. Once the topic is assigned, students have until January 17 to locate 4 sources and create an annotated bibliography. The 2-page typed report w/works cited is due Friday, January 20. Reports MUST include at least **4 citations (quotes or paraphrasing) from at least 3 sources**. January 18-24, students will work in teams to create a 5-8 minute presentation of their topic. Students may create documentaries, podcasts, slideshows and/or pamphlets. The presentations should be original, engaging, and connected to our text. How does each presentation successfully expand our understanding of Steinbeck’s famous novel *Of Mice & Men*?

Topics:

1.John Steinbeck - (his life, writing career, and literary achievements) What drove his writing and why was he sympathetic to the farm workers?

2. America in the 20’s - “The Good Life” - describe the life, philosophy and economics of the Roaring 20’s. What of Al Capone and the rise of gangsters?

3. Role of Women in the 20’s - What were women’s right during this time? How did the role of women begin to change and why?

4. Music of the 20’s and 30’s - Describe the major music trends. What were the hits and who were the musicians? How did the music fit the time period?

5. Fashion of the 1930’s - What did people wear? How and why was the style different from the 1920’s?

6. The Dust Bowl - What was it? Where was it? Who moved West & why? How many people were affected?

7. The Great Depression - What were the causes? What was life like during the time? How did people survive?

8. Herbert Hoover and Hoovervilles - Who was he and what was his role in the Great Depression?

9. Franklin D. Roosevelt (FDR) - Who was he? What national policies did he help implement to relieve the Depression? What were some of the accomplishments of these policies that we see even today?

10. Migrant Farm Workers - Describe and define. What is the history of migrant farm workers in California? How did Californians’ react to the “okies” who came from the Midwest? Are there still tensions around migrant farm work today?

11. United Farm Workers - What is the history behind the UFW? Why did it come into existence? What does the organization attempt to do? Who was Cesar Chavez? Describe at least ONE specific change the UFW implemented.

12. The Homeless - Who was homeless in the 20’s & 30’s and who is homeless today? Find statistics, describe life for these people, and provide causes and solutions.

13. Mental Retardation - Provide a definition. What did care look like in the 1930’s? Today? How far have we come as a nation and what is the Sandra Jensen case?

\*\*Once you have your topic, please highlight your question, grab your chromebook and begin searching for information. You may not use wikipedia for this assignment - please work to find FOUR legitimate sources. Open a google doc, title it annotated bibliography and begin pasting viable sources (urls) there.

* Annotated Bibliography due **Tuesday, January 17 (20 points)**
* Two-page Research Paper due **Friday, January 20 (50 points)** submit to turnitin.com by 3 pm
* Works Cited attached to research paper on **Friday, January 20 (10 points)** with at least THREE sources.
* Presentations - 5-8 minutes (Do not read your material) due beginning **January 25 (50 points)**