Mrs. Burke

C.P. 10 English

Research Paper

**Research Paper Requirements and Dates**

**Expectations**

You will be writing a 5 page research paper. You will be choosing the author and topic then turning the topic into a thesis statement, which will be the argument presented and proven in your paper. You are trying to PROVE a point in this paper!

**Topic:**

You get to choose an American author to research – YAY! – it can be ANY American author, but you must make sure there is enough information about that author other than biographical information. This is not a report on their background or on the books they wrote. It is a claim that this author was either influenced by some aspect of society such as common values, religion or politics, or had some kind influence in society in any way.

What you are going to do is research the author’s background, the time period, and the author’s writing(s) to discuss in your research paper how the author’s environment influenced his or her writings or how author’s writing influenced a part of society (i.e., the equal rights movement). It would be extremely helpful if you choose an American author who is well known as well as one you have already read. Of course, your author and the related topic must be approved by Mrs. Burke.

**Requirements**

This paper will be completed in steps. Listed below are the actual steps involved in this process and each due date.

**\*\*PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT and BE SURE IT IS UNDERSTOOD \*\***

Each step is due on its due date. For each day that it is late, you will lose one full letter grade up to 2 days late. For example, if a due date for a step is February 12, but you do not hand it in until February 15, you will lose 3 letter grades for that step. It will NOT BE ACCEPTED on February 16 for a grade.

**Due Dates and Point Values**

**Step 1**

September 27 – Topic (Author + Key words): 5 points

**Step 2**

October 4 – Thesis Statement: 5 points

**Step 3**

October 11 – Tentative Outline: 20 points

**Step 4**

October 18 – Sources (4 @ 5 points each): 20 points

**Step 5**

October 29 – Note Card Check: 10 points

**Step 6**

November 15 – Rough draft: 40 points

**Step 7**

**December 6 – Final Draft: 100** points

**TOTAL: 200 points**