Hi all,
This is it! Our last week together. The unit that we began before you left was presented almost like a HISTORY lesson, right? Well, as you are fully aware, history is repeating itself and it’s heartbreaking. As promised, we are going to wrap up our work this week. There are a variety of activities for you to engage in surrounding this necessary conversation about race. Please enjoy them, but also learn from them. As always, if you want to add to my collection of works with suggestions, I’d love it!

Here’s what is due by Friday, June 12:

- For each piece, you should copy/paste the original and create your own document. You can then type/print however you want and then share with me via ONEDRIVE.

  1. Annotated poem
  2. Worksheet questions regarding poem
  3. TEDTalk response sheet
  4. Creative Social Media post regarding past/current racial tensions in USA

“STILL I RISE” – Maya Angelou

**FIRST**: Read through the poem in its original form. Mark/make notes on anything you find interesting or have a question about.

**SECOND**: Mark all examples you can find of personification (P), allusion (A), similes (S) and metaphors (M)

**THIRD**: In the chart provided, answer the questions using COMPLETE SENTENCES (unless multiple choice).

**Still I Rise**

[Maya Angelou](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maya_Angelou) – 1928-2014

You may write me down in history
With your bitter, twisted lies,
You may trod me in the very dirt
But still, like dust, I’ll rise.
Does my sassiness upset you?
Why are you beset with gloom?
’Cause I walk like I’ve got oil wells
Pumping in my living room.
Just like moons and like suns,
With the certainty of tides,
Just like hopes springing high,
Still I’ll rise.

Did you want to see me broken?
Bowed head and lowered eyes?
Shoulders falling down like teardrops,
Weakened by my soulful cries?

Does my haughtiness offend you?
Don’t you take it awful hard
’Cause I laugh like I’ve got gold mines
Diggin’ in my own backyard.

You may shoot me with your words,
You may cut me with your eyes,
You may kill me with your hatefulness,
But still, like air, I’ll rise.

Does my sexiness upset you?
Does it come as a surprise
That I dance like I’ve got diamonds
At the meeting of my thighs?

Out of the huts of history’s shame
I rise
Up from a past that’s rooted in pain
I rise
I’m a black ocean, leaping and wide,
Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.

Leaving behind nights of terror and fear
I rise
Into a daybreak that’s wondrously clear
I rise
Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,
I am the dream and the hope of the slave.
I rise
I rise
I rise.
**STILL I RISE - worksheet**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
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| You may write me down in history                                         | 1. What is the meaning of her first two lines? Think about how books have portrayed African Americans in history.  
I think the meaning of the first two lines is__________
____________________________________________________________________________________|
| With your bitter, twisted lies, You may trod me in the very dirt But still, like dust, I'll rise. | 2. The last two lines of this stanza set the tone for the whole poem. What is the tone?  
A. Wistful  
B. Defiant  
C. Jubilant |
| Does my sassiness upset you? Why are you beset with gloom? 'Cause I walk like I've got oil wells Pumping in my living room. | 3. Look up the phrase “rhetorical question.” Write the definition you found.  
____________________________________________________________________________________|
| Just like moons and like suns, With the certainty of tides, Just like hopes springing high, Still I'll rise. | 4. How does the simile help give the idea of determination in the stanza? (think about “rising”)  
Comparing herself to the ______ and the ______ shows determination because__________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________|
| Did you want to see me broken? Bowed head and lowered eyes? Shoulders falling down like teardrops, Weakened by my soulful cries? | 5. Who is the “you” the speaker is addressing in the two rhetorical questions?  
The “you” is __________________________  
BONUS QUESTION (10 points) How does the use of rhetorical questions as well as the other two lines in the stanza add the tone of defiance? |
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<td>6. Look up the word <em>haughty</em>. Does the speaker thinks she is haughty</td>
<td>The author’s purpose for using violent verbs was</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or is she accusing others of viewing her as haughty?</td>
<td>The author’s purpose for using violent verbs was</td>
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<td>7. Look at the violent verbs (“shoot”, “cut,” “kill”). What was the</td>
<td>The author’s purpose for using violent verbs was</td>
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<td>author’s purpose for using them?</td>
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<td>Does my sexiness upset you?</td>
<td>8. Why would the “you” be upset by the speaker showing her femininity?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does it come as a surprise</td>
<td>The “you” may be upset by the speaker showing her femininity because</td>
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<tr>
<td>That I dance like I’ve got diamonds</td>
<td></td>
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<td>At the meeting of my thighs?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Out of the huts of history’s shame</td>
<td>9. What is the allusions to the “huts of history’s shame?”</td>
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<tr>
<td>I rise</td>
<td>The “hut’s of history’s shame” is alluding to</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Welling and swelling I bear in the tide.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Explain the metaphor in the final two lines of the stanza.</td>
<td>Angelou compares the speaker to a black ocean because</td>
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Leaving behind nights of terror and fear
I rise
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Bringing the gifts that my ancestors gave,
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I rise
I rise
I rise.

11. What is the theme of the poem?
The theme of the poem is ______________________
______________________________
______________________________
______________________________
______________________________
__

Multi-media engagement 😊

1. Watch these videos in the following order: no notes, just enjoy!

a) Destiny’s Child:  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sQgd6MccwZc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sQgd6MccwZc)
b) Beyonce: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4m1EFMoRFvY](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4m1EFMoRFvY)

2. TEDTalk: “What Beyonce Taught Me About Race” by Brittany Barron

• Watch entire TEDTalk one time through to simply learn:
  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fDzj9vRw5yM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fDzj9vRw5yM)

• Notes Time
• Watch for a second time and fill in attached worksheet:

New or Important Words/Phrases

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5 quotes of importance or interest

Summary of TEDtalk

How willing would you be to recommend this TEDtalk? Why/why not? Be specific.
As you end your sophomore year amidst a social and medical crisis, you have no doubt been inundated with information from a variety of sources on your phone, computer, TV, etc. Some sources are probably more credible than others, right? Don’t forget that YOU are also a source of information and your opinion regarding the current social crisis regarding racial equality is valid because of the information you have learned. For your last assignment, I want you to create a social media post that would go on your favorite platform. Don’t worry, it WON’T go on there! This is an English class assignment! 😊

In your “post”, you have to establish your credibility. Therefore, **you have to cite from/reference** at least **3 of the sources** we have worked with during our remote time:

“Right to Love”
“The Sneetches”
“Incident”
“Everything Rises Must Converge”
“Still I Rise”
“What Beyonce Taught Me About Race”

Your post can be a singular statement, OR it can be a reaction to a post you disagree with or agree with, OR it can be a back-and-forth scenario with someone who agrees with or disagrees with you. You know how these posts look. Create a version that fits for you. Regardless of the format, YOUR reflection on the current social crisis **must be at least 300 words** and refer to at least **3 of the above-named texts** we engaged with. While I know some of your language choices become more colorful outside of the classroom, I do ask that you refrain from gratuitous obscenities and remain appropriate for a school assignment.