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| Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_ | Ms. Baulch  English III |

Word Search Paper

The “Word Search” paper is not like any research you have done before or will do later at this school. However, like all research papers, you will be asked to do the following:

1) Choose a topic

2) Refer to a variety of sources

3) Synthesize information from these sources

4) Write a full-length paper

Hopefully, when you are finished you will have arrived at a fuller and richer understanding of your topic, learned new ways to acquire information, stretched your ability to evaluate information, and used your “voice” in the process.

You are going to research a word. You will discover that only one word is a wellspring of information, which can be viewed in a multitude of ways.

The Objective

This research paper is intended to be a “capstone” assignment for English III. In other words, it should showcase the content goals that we’ve worked on this year.

1. Audience and purpose
   1. The essay should have a clear purpose—a need to be written. Your claim should be interesting and novel, not worn and obvious.
   2. The essay should be written to engage an audience, to capture their interest and make them want to read more.
2. Claims and evidence
   1. The essay should make clear, arguable claims supported with specific, detailed evidence from the required sources.
   2. Rather than summarizing source material, the essay should reflect critical thinking about the sources.
3. Reasoning and organization
   1. There should be a clear line of reasoning within and between paragraphs.
   2. The essay should read as a thoughtful whole, with an argument that builds and develops over the course of the essay.
4. Empathy and risk-taking
   1. You choose the word, and you choose the focus. The topic should be personal to you and challenge you to think about yourself and your world in a new way.
   2. You should adopt a style that reflects your personal voice.
5. Revision
   1. You will revise meaningfully and extensively to improve your essay.
   2. You will give and receive meaningful peer feedback.
6. Engaged reader
   1. The essay should reflect critical thinking and understanding of the sources.

The Research

The goal is not just to Google your word. Instead, you’ll be exploring how the *ideas* associated with your word exist through a variety of mediums.

Let’s say you choose the word “obedience,” which also means considering the verb “obey.” Well, that doesn’t mean only considering when people obey. You might also consider its antonym, “disobedience.” When are people—or groups, or countries—obedient? When are they disobedient? Why?

You could also consider the many synonyms of “obedience,” such as “respect” and “deference.” Must we obey those we respect? Or, alternately, is there an obligation to disobey those we don’t respect?

If I think about the Bible, there’s a lot about the importance of obeying God. Then again, Jesus’ life was marked by disobedience--not to God, but to the authorities of His day. Neither the word “obedience” or “obey” appears in *The Great Gatsby*, but Gatsby sure disobeyed societal norms by trying to enter the East Egg social class—and he paid a great price too.

If you only Google “obedience,” your paper will likely be boring. Consider expanding the possibilities to access richer sources and form a more engaging paper!

**Required Resources at a Glance**

**The Basics**

1. DICTIONARY: Look up your word in a well-researched dictionary. You’ll need to list the meanings that matter to you.

2. THESAURUS: Find the first group of synonyms listed in a good thesaurus. You may find that you’ll use these synonyms as substitutes for your word as you explain this part of your search in your personal commentary. Look up antonyms of your word as well.

**Classic Texts**

3. BIBLE (you may substitute another spiritual text, such as the Torah or Koran): There are online concordances of the Bible, and most good print copies have a subject index.

4. LITERATURE: You can consider something classic, such as Shakespeare (there is an excellent on-line concordance called Opensourceshakespeare.com), or perhaps a text you’ve studied in school such as *The Great Gatsby*. Or you can choose another novel or short story. Regardless, the text must be at an adult reading level (no Dr. Seuss here) *and* you must have actually read it.

5. MYTH: Find a published version of a story from mythology that relates to or includes the use of your word. You may want to choose several myths to show cross-cultural similarities or differences in the meaning of your word.

1. QUOTATION: Your requirement is only one quote, and it can come from any published (print or online) compilation of quotations. Consider choosing several and revealing different threads of meaning on your word.

**Contemporary Uses of the Word**

1. POEM or SONG LYRICS: Avoid self-published poems and songs--they’re often terrible (i.e. a site like HelloPoetry is NOT acceptable). Choose a poem or song by an artist who has been published (though you may find the poem or song on the internet).
2. MAGAZINE or NEWSPAPER ARTICLE: Look for your word in the daily or weekly news. Consider how its use today may be heightened or changed from other uses you’ve found.
3. MOVIE or TV SHOW: Find a movie or TV show that reflects your word in some way. Like with the literature category, this *must* be a TV show or movie that you have seen.
4. POP CULTURE: Find your word in something that’s getting attention right now. This category requires some searching and listening--attention must be paid to the world around you. Perhaps find something that demonstrates your word’s opposite, too. Possible genres include:
   1. VIDEO GAME
   2. ONLINE VIDEO/MEME
   3. TWITTER HASHTAG/TIK TOK
   4. ADVERTISEMENT

**People Perspectives**

1. INTERVIEW I: Interview an adult about the meaning of your word (this adult *may not* live with you). Write up an interview sheet with your questions and the person’s replies and make sure you get the name, date, location, etc.
2. INTERVIEW II: Interview an adult at CovCath: a school administrator, a teacher, a coach, an activity advisor, or a staff member. Make an appointment with the person you wish to interview and follow the good manners that we all know you have.

**THAT’S RIGHT. THERE ARE 12 REQUIRED SOURCES.**

**GRADING**

1. The project (NoodleTools + progress checks + final paper) will form the bulk of our work in the third quarter. You cannot pass the quarter without successfully completing the research and the accompanying paper.

**NOODLETOOLS + RESEARCH FOLDER**: Your research folder includes all work not done in NoodleTools/Canvas – things like printed drafts and peer edits.

1. I will regularly check your progress in NoodleTools.
2. You must keep notes on each source – not simply the source info itself.
3. Printouts or handwritten records of your interview questions and responses should be kept in your folder.
4. **Keep ALL drafts, peer edits, handouts, etc. These will be turned in.**
5. Your NoodleTools and Research Folder must reflect all your work, in and out of class, regarding the process. Please remember that this should be your own work--not your friend’s, not your parent’s.
6. Your final paper must refer to all 12 of the requirements listed.
7. Your paper should show signs of reflection and depth--do more than just explain ordinary meanings and skim the surface. Be sure that your writing style reflects your clear and honest voice, and your honest attempts to show that you have taken the assignment seriously.
8. DOCUMENT (CITE SOURCES) CORRECTLY IN MLA FORMAT. **Documentation**--the process of creating an accurate Works Cited page and source citations in the body of your paper--is a large part of the Word Search process.

**A FEW BASIC RULES AND WORDS OF ADVICE**

1. **msbaulch.weebly.com will be your go-to site for every resource you will need to complete the paper. Have a question? Visit the site.**
2. Only one person per word per class. Try to have a few choices in mind in case someone else chooses your word first in our class selection process. (If you would like to research a word that is not on the list, see me.)
3. I will give class time for discussion of problems and research, but a good deal of this project will be completed outside of class time.
4. We’ll be using NoodleTools to aid you in keeping source information organized and in documenting your sources. It will take some practice to become familiar with these tools if you are not already, so be patient.

**WORD SEARCH WORD LIST**

adoration

ambition

anger

awe

beauty

bravery

brilliance

burden

certainty

chaos

charity

commitment

compromise

contentment

courage

curiosity

darkness

deceit

despair

devotion

discipline

dignity

doubt

empathy

envy

faith

fairness

fear

generosity

genius

grace

greed

happiness

health

honor

hope

humility

ignorance

independence

innocence

inspiration

intelligence

integrity

jealousy

kindness

liberty

love

loyalty

luck

madness

moderation

modesty

normalcy

obedience

obsession

order

passion

patience

perfection

popularity

prayer

pride

purity

quiet

reason

reformation

regret

risk

sacredness

sanity

selfishness

sincerity

sloth

sorrow

success

suffering

talent

truth

ugliness

victory

virtue

vulnerability

wisdom