**Hero’s Journey Project: Reading around the World**

**Task:** After reading stories from a specific region and researching the aspects of that region’s culture as a group, students will individually write a narrative using the structure of the hero’s journey. The narrative should help the reader see the influence of reading and researching another culture. Add imagery, figurative language, and details that enhance the development of your main character as well as offer a picture of your region.

**Read**

* Read as many stories from your country or region as possible. (At least 3 short stories and one longer work: an epic, a play, a novella, a novel, etc.)
* *Keep a record of the stories you read. These will appear in your reflection paper at the end. You may wish to write down what you liked about the story, or what you found puzzling, etc.*
* Films and educational videos can also show much about a culture, its people, history, and also explore how people try to figure out their way through the demands of a culture and or the demands of its climate, geography, or history.
* What are the myths and legends of this region?

**Research**

*Students generated an extensive list of options for explorative research.*

Research and share with your group. We categorized the following topics as falling into separate **Big Bucket ideas: Culture, Geography/Place, History/Time, or Social Structure**. To prevent a haphazard research approach, to allow for freedom and serendipity (serendipity is the accidental stumbling across a great discovery), and to ensure that the research is accurate, dive deeply into a **Big Bucket idea, then choose at least two other topics to explore.** Keep track of your sources as they will be part of your reflection paper, described below. Working in a group should help protect you from using sources that are inaccurate, but the best way to ensure scholarly integrity is to use sources sponsored by credible organizations, like National Geographic, the State Department’s travel advisory website, the History Channel.

Agriculture

Architecture/tourist spots

Artifacts

Climate

Colonization history

Contributions to society

Contributions to humanity

Culture/ customs

Demographics

Economics/Coinage

Education

Entertainment

Flag

Food

Health Care

History

Language

Laws

Leadership

Military/military power

Music and the arts

National treasures

People

Places

ReligionSocial system

Symbols

Technology

Time

Trade

Traditional clothing

Transportation

**The Writing Process**

1. Invention: Stations used to draft and outline of the Hero’s Journey (The Twelve Steps are attached in another document)
2. Writing Workshop: include imagery and telling details to make your reader share the experience
3. Revising Workshop: imbed five examples figurative language in your story. Highlight where you use a simile, a metaphor, a personification, hyperbole,
4. Polishing and editing: make sure that you have set up your page in MLA format: 12 point, Times New Roman, double spaced, proper heading, etc., as well as making sure your sentences are smooth: no grammar

**Reflection**

In an explication of the process, students write a one-page reflection.

* What elements did you include from your region?
* What literary elements did you include?
* What sources did you use?
* Describe the choices that you made and your reasoning behind them.