**Monday, February 29**  
Read "El Angel del Oro" and "A Christmas Gift," two stories of disappointment. We focused on conflict in these two stories. We also read "Death Forgiven" and evaluated the story based on the "Justice Framework" with target, perpetrator, ally, bystander.  
**Homework: Note that midterm grades will be uploaded tomorrow. Make sure your late work is handed in, including the Home Reading Contract.  
  
Friday, February 26**  
Word Wizard. Current Events. Notebook cleaning for midterm. Finished claim-and-evidence writing task related to "Miracle in Tent City."  
**Homework: In preparation for midterm, make sure you have handed in your Works Cited list, Home Reading Contract, Openers, and Word Wizard packets.  
  
Thursday, February 25**  
Sentence craft warm-up with Word Wizard words. Claims and evidence with "Miracle in Tent City." Speeches.  
**Homework: See Tuesday.  
  
Wednesday, February 24**  
Conventions of Writing (COW) warm-up. Read "Inside Out" from *The Circuit,* using "Justice Framework" to analyze the story. Who is the perpetrator, target, ally, and bystander, and how does this change over the course of the story? (Claims and evidence.) Speeches.  
**Homework: See Tuesday.  
  
Tuesday, February 23**  
Introduction to justice narrative project with "On Cracking White City." Speeches.  
**Homework: See Monday. Remember to bring in your signed Home Reading Contract. And read three or more hours per week outside of class.  
  
Monday, February 22**  
"Soledad" from *The Circuit* and discussion. Speeches.  
**Homework: Make sure you have printed and handed in your Works Cited list for your speech.  
  
Friday, February 19**  
Word Wizard. Current Events. Speeches.  
**Homework: See Tuesday.  
  
Thursday, February 18**  
Sentence craft. Introduction to *The Circuit*. Read first story, "Under the Wire." Speeches.  
**​Homework: See Tuesday.  
  
Wednesday, February 17**  
Read aloud with Conventions of Writing (COW) warm-up. Current Eventw. Speeches.  
**Homework: See Tuesday.  
  
Tuesday, February 16**  
Read aloud. Speeches.  
**​Homework: Speeches and Works Cited lists.  
  
Monday, February 15**  
Presidents' Day. No school.  
  
**Friday, February 12**  
Word Wizard. Current Events. Speeches.  
**Homework: Make sure your speech is ready, and you have printed your MLA-style Works Cited list.  
  
Thursday, February 11**  
Read aloud with sentence craft warmup. Library visit for new independent reading books. Joke telling for practice with speech delivery.  
**Homework: Speeches tomorrow. Have your MLA-style Works Cited list on the day you give your speech.  
  
Wednesday, February 10**  
Read aloud with conventions of writing warmup. Mini-lessons on speech conclusions and reminders about Works Cited lists (use MLA style with EasyBib or BibMe; alphabetize the sources; include a title for the list. Work time.  
**Homework: The first speeches are scheduled for tomorrow. You will hand in your MLA-style Works Cited list on the day of your speech.  
  
Tuesday, February 9**  
Read aloud. What goes on the note cards for the body of your speech? Mini-lesson on transition words. Mini-lesson on oral citations. Reminder about Works Cited list for speech.  
**Homework: The Novel Journal is due tomorrow. Speeches will begin on Thursday. You will hand in your MLA-style Works Cited list on the day of your speech.  
  
Monday, February 8**  
Quick write. Thesis statements, hooks, and introduction note cards for speeches. Work time.  
**Homework: See Friday. Add that your notes for your speech are due for checking TOMORROW, Tuesday, February 9.**  
  
**Friday, February 5**  
Word Wizard quiz. Novel Group.  
**Homework: Read. Have your Novel Journal complete (including the review pages) and ready to hand in on Wednesday, February 10. Speeches begin on Thursday, February 11. Make sure you make a MLA-style Works Cited List.**  
  
**Thursday, February 4**  
Read aloud and Word Wizard. Work time for speech research and Works Cited lists AND/OR novel/Novel Journal.  
**Homework: See Monday.  
  
Wednesday, February 3**  
Word Wizard review. Continued work on speech research.  
**Homework: See Monday.  
  
Tuesday, February 2**  
Read aloud. Mini-lesson on research. Beginning of research for speeches.  
**Homework: See Monday.  
  
Monday, February 1**  
Quick write. Current Event. *Scope* article on eating bugs. Discussion on how to turn main ideas into subtopics (in preparation for upcoming speech).  
**Homework: Read. Finish your novel by Friday, February 5.  
  
Friday, January 29**  
Word Wizard. Novel Groups.  
**Homework: Make sure you have a printed copy of your persona poem with an MLA-style Works Cited list on Monday, February 1. Also, finish your novel for Friday, February 5.  
  
Thursday, January 28**  
Read aloud and sentence craft. Spelling Bee. Work time for novel journals and persona poems.  
**Homework: See Tuesday. Don't forget your Novel Journal and novel for tomorrow.  
​  
Wednesday, January 27**  
Conventions of writing based on David Bowie's "Space Oddity." Watched three-minute music video. Mini-lesson on use of EasyBib and BibMe for MLA Works Cited lists. Students worked in small groups on their persona poems and Works Cited lists.  
**Homework: See Tuesday.  
  
Tuesday, January 26**  
Read aloud. Current Event. Peer group work on persona poems**.  
Homework: Persona Poem with Works Cited list due on Friday, January 29. Be 3/4 through novel for Friday, with journal page complete.  
  
Monday, January 25**  
No school due to teacher planning and grading day.  
  
**Friday, January 22**  
Word Wizard. Book Groups.  
**Homework: See Tuesday,  
  
Thursday, January 21**  
Read aloud with sentence craft warmup. Small groups on setting in persona poems. Work time for persona poems and/or novels and novel journals.  
**Homework: See Tuesday.  
  
Wednesday, January 20**  
Read aloud with conventions of writing warmup. Current Event. Short language arts work time for novel reading, journal writing, and persona poems.  
**​Homework: See Tuesday.  
  
Tuesday, January 19**  
Mini-lesson on poetic devices. Work time for persona poems research and writing.  
**Homework: Read. Be 1/2 through novel for Friday. Draft of persona poem due on Tuesday, January 26.  
  
Monday, January 18**  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. No school.  
  
**Friday, January 15**  
Word Wizard. Current Event. Novel Group.  
**Homework: Read to 1/2 way point of novel for next Friday. Draft of persona poem due on Tuesday, January 26.  
  
Thursday, January 14**  
Sentence Craft. Current Event. Second semester Current Event schedule. Criteria for persona poem and work time.  
**Homework: Make sure you are 1/4 through your novel for tomorrow. And have one of your Novel Journal pages filled out.  
  
Wednesday, January 13**  
Read aloud with conventions warmup. Introduction to Novel Journals with models. Work time for Novel Journals and persona poem research.  
**Homework: Read 1/4 of your novel for Friday. Complete Novel Journal entry for Friday. Make sure your character essay is printed.  
  
Tuesday, January 12**  
Persona poem models by Frank X. Walker from *Journey of York.*Research time for persona poems.  
**Homework: See Friday. There are still some character essays missing. Have you printed and handed in yours?**  
  
  
**Monday, January 11**  
Read a short biography of Cleopatra and reviewed a sample persona poem on her as an introduction to the persona poem assignment. Students used the online sources I suggested and other resources to choose a person to research for their persona poem.  
**​Homework: See Friday.  
  
Friday, January 8**  
Word Wizard quiz (and packet turn-in). Current Events. Book Club schedules.  
**Homework: Make sure you have made final edits and printed your character essay by Monday, January 11. Also, read your Book Club book; you will need to be 1/4 through the book by Friday, January 15.**  
  
**Thursday, January 7**  
Opener (Word Wizard review). Mini-lesson on summarize, paraphrase, quote based on Billy Collins' "Snow Day." Work time for essays.  
**Homework: See yesterday.  
  
Wednesday, January 6**  
Opener (Word Wizard review). Book talks for social justice novels. Work time for character essays.  
**Homework: Final character paper due Monday, January 11. Word Wizard quiz on Friday, January 8. Read  
  
Monday-Tuesday, January 4-5**  
No school due to inclement weather.