**TRANSCENDENTALISM ESSAY**

**AMERICAN LITERATURE**

**TOPIC:**

Write an essay in which you create a Transcendentalist School, therefore following Transcendentalist ideals. You might explore areas such as curriculum, teaching techniques, scheduling, the physical school itself (inside and out), the surrounding area, rules and policies, mission statement/educational philosophy, punishments/rewards, etc. - anything you can think of that is a major element of public schools. Try to paint an overall picture of the school: how it follows Transcendentalism, why it is worthy and why students should attend.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

1. 6-8 CDs; 6 chunks total.
2. Use **five** different sentence structures. You can highlight or underline the sentence(s) and then put in parenthesis at the end of the sentence what technique you applied. Examples include, polysyndeton, asyndeton, adverb pairs, adjective pairs, participial phrases (starting with a verb), anaphora, parallel structure, etc..
3. Strong intro using a technique to grab the reader’s interest. Remember, you are selling your school so hook them right at the beginning. You will need a title, which can simply be the name of your school. YOU WILL NEED TO NAME YOUR SCHOOL.
4. Strong conclusion with two main parts: ​brief​ summary and a larger part that is NEW CMs—discuss the implications of the essay to the reader and why your school is a Transcendentalist school worth attending.
5. All CDs must be cited and MLA formatting and Works Cited page are required
6. Make use of at least **three different Romantic selections** to select your CDs from: “Thanatopsis,” “To a Waterfowl,” “Nature,” “Self-Reliance,” “Walden,” “Resistance to Civil Government.” You can also use additional outside sources if it strengthens your school.
7. CDs from the sources should be used to support your interpretation of what the school will reflect.
8. Submit to **turnitin.com by 11:59 February 10 and hard copy to me on February 11. Bring a rough draft to class on Friday, February 8…I will be checking your progress.**

**REMINDERS:**

* Selection of quality CDs is crucial. Take the time to locate the PERFECT CDs to​ support your position.
* CMs are where you show you understand the subject with depth, subtlety, and​ sophistication.
* Emphasize quality, precise word choice throughout, especially of verbs and​ adjectives, as this brings creativity, readability and flavor.
* Emphasize clarity, conciseness, and also use a VARIETY of sentence structures. Use​ sentences of different lengths, different structures, and with different openings.
* Edit, edit, edit. Be precise.​