**English 12 – Portfolio Assignments**

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| Due Date | **TOPIC:** |
| **September 7**  **#1** | 1. What objects tell the story of your life? Carefully curating a limited set of objects has become a popular way for museums and historians to tell a history because artifacts can help us visualize the past and see complex events as something tangible. We can use the same approach to tell our personal histories as well. A sentimental t-shirt, a kindergarten drawing, a book, a medal, a piece of jewelry. What objects tell the story of your life? Write about five to ten objects that you would include in an exhibit about your life. Why did you select each of those objects? |
| **September 21**  **#2** | 2. Define “comfort zone.” What is your comfort zone and when have you had to step out of your comfort zone? How did it make you feel? What did you learn? |
| **October 12**  **#3** | 3. **OBSERVATION ESSAY.** Write about your favorite place – a mountaintop, your grandparents’ house, your backyard. Describe it using all of your senses and then explain what it means to you. What are your vivid memories that are set in that place? Do other people find it as special as you do? |
| **November 2**  **#4** | 4. **COMPARE/CONTRAST ESSAY.**  How is growing up in the 21st Century alike and different from when your parents grew up? |
| **November 22**  **#5** | 5. **NARRATIVE**. How often do you cry? Why do you cry? Describe the last time you cried. Be specific. How do you feel after you’ve cried? If you don’t cry often, how else do you express your emotions? |
| **December 14**  **#6** | 6. Describe your favorite types of TV shows or movies. Why do you think these appeal to you? |
| **January 11**  **#7** | 7. Write about your music. What are you listening to right now? What songs have you recently downloaded? How much do you tend to follow pop music? Who are your favorite artists? Are your favorite songs ones everyone knows, or are they more obscure? How much do your friends influence the music you listen to? How much do your parents influence the music you listen to? Do your parents know the music you like? |
| **February 1**  **#8** | 8. **CAUSE/EFFECT ESSAY.** Describe the effects of technology and social media on your relationships with your parents, other family members, and friends. |
| **February 22**  **#9** | 9. **CAUSE/EFFECT ESSAY.** Describe ONE thing you are really good at. Why does this make you proud? How or when did you realize you had this aptitude or knack? Explain your passion and the effects of it on your life. |
| **March 8**  **#10** | 10. **ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY.** Choose one of these topics and argue your opinion:  Should Parents Track Their Teenager’s Location?  Does Your Generation Experience More Anxiety Than Other Generations?  At what age should kids get a smart phone?  Should all students receive some type of education or training after high school? |
| **March 29**  **#11** | 12. **CAUSE/EFFECT ESSAY.** As you begin your last quarter of high school, what scares you the most about the future? |
| **April 19**  **#12** | 11. **ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY – TOPIC TO BE DETERMINED** |