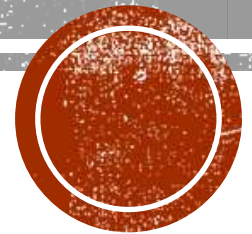


# GRAND CONVERSATIONS

English 11CP



# WHAT IS A GRAND CONVERSATION????

- Grand Conversations allows you to grapple with interpreting a difficult and/or complex text.
- You will use the discussions in class to guide your project.
- The purpose of this project is to provide an opportunity for you to show the depth of your understanding of a piece of literature.



# WITCH HUNT GC ASSIGNMENT

- Our study of *The Crucible* is drawing to a close and it is now time to investigate how the concept of a “witch hunt” relates to modern America.
- We have studied a play featuring a literal hunt for witches, as well as a figurative witch hunt, *The Red Scare*.
- You will now choose among a set of potential witch hunts from recent history to research and create a GC.



# GC GUIDELINES

- Find three articles about a modern day witch hunt. **Three** will annotate the articles. **One** will create a visual diagram comparing the modern witch hunt to the Crucible Witch Trials. The **fifth** member will create a Works Cited page.
- Create a screen play that reflects the themes in *The Crucible* and using the members in your group, create a **seven to ten-minute video** acting it out. You may use people outside of your group as extras.
- **30 seconds** at the beginning of the presentation may be a brief summary of your story.



# GC GUIDELINES

- Minimum five (5) quotes. Must be significant and taken from the entire story. Need to fit seamlessly into the presentation. Figure out a way to highlight your chosen quotes. Either provide closed-captioning for just the quote, script with the quotes highlighted, or something on the screen or in class that signals that a quote is being used.
- Go beyond plot. Presentation may be symbolic, abstract, funny (but in good taste), it must be created and show depth of thought (critical thinking). Focus on theme, but don't forget to include other significant elements from the text (i.e., prominent symbols, motifs, characters, structural and rhetorical elements, etc.).
- End with a thematic statement, but include thematic elements throughout the presentation.



# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION GO ON THE WEBSITE...

The screenshot shows the website for Ruben S. Ayala High School. At the top, there is a navigation bar with a home icon, the word "DISTRICT", a "Select a School..." dropdown, a "Translate this page..." button, "My PassKeys", "My Options", and a "Search This Site..." search bar. Below this is a red header with the school's logo on the left, the name "RUBEN S. AYALA" in large white letters, "HIGH SCHOOL" below it, and a "Lunches & Menus" link with an apple icon on the right. A dark grey navigation bar contains links for Home, About Us, Academics, Athletics/Activities, Classrooms, Parents, Staff, Students, and Calendar. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column, titled "Oakley, James", contains links for "Mr. Oakley's English", "English 10CP", "English 11CP", and "Turnitin.com Instructions 10th Grade". The right column features a section titled "Grand Conversations: The Crucible" with a link to "Grand Conversations: The Crucible". Below this is a section for "The Crucible (Full Text)" with links for "Crucible (Full Text)" and "Crucible Audio Recording". Further down are sections for "Rules and Procedures Powerpoint" and "Syllabus". At the bottom of the right column, there are three dropdown menus for "All Categories", "Select Month", and "Select Year", followed by a "Filter" button.



# TOPIC SELECTION PROCESS

- **Choose your topic** from among the available options.
- **Read and highlight/annotate 3 relevant articles.**
- Annotations should include the following considerations:
  - **The situation.** Who are the relevant people? What happened/is happening? Why? What context is required to understand the situation? Mark the text and annotate these elements.
  - **How this situation qualifies as a witchhunt.** Who was the “witch”? Who did the premature accusing or punishing? Why was this unjust? Was justice served? Who was persecuted or falsely accused?
  - **Propose a way to prevent a similar situation from happening again in the future.** How can we prevent history from repeating itself in this respect? Should Americans receive more education on a certain issue? Do we need a law of some kind to deal with situations like this?



# DUE DATES

- **3 annotated articles regarding modern day witch hunt:** Thursday, November 30
- **visual diagram comparing the modern witch hunt to the Salem Witch Trials per *The Crucible*:** Thursday, November 30
- **Works Cited page:** Thursday, November 30
- **Typed and uploaded screenplay to Turnitin.com:** Wednesday, December 6.
- **Videos:** Wednesday, December 13.





# POTENTIAL TOPICS AND ARTICLES

- *American Muslims after 9/11*—Treatment of Muslim-Americans in the era of terrorism.
  - **Article: “The Trouble with Airport Profiling”**
  - **Article: “Muslims Report Rising Discrimination at Work”**
- *Lavender Scare*—Like the Red Scare, except focused on suspected homosexuality rather than communism.
  - **Article: “An Interview with David K Johnson: author of *The Lavender Scare: The Cold War Persecution of Gays and Lesbians in the Federal Government*”**
  - **Article: “9 Things to Know About the Lavender Scare”**
    - Warning: This article does contain profanity
- *Trump Administration & the EPA*—The Trump administration asks the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to identify employees who believe in climate change
  - **Article: “Trump Transition Team for Energy Department seeks names of Employees Involved in Climate Meetings**
  - **Article: “Trump’s EPA has started to scrub climate change data from its website”**
- *Immigrants in 2017 America*—Deportations are on the rise as anti-immigration sentiments become more common
  - **Article: “Hunt is on for the source of Immigrant List in Utah”**
  - **Article: “Donald Trump plans to immediately deport 2 million to 3 million undocumented immigrants”**
- *Internet Bullying*—Those who are different are shamed and ostracized
  - **Article: “The Flip Side of Internet Fame”**
  - **Article: “Outsmart Your Haters”**

