**American Literary Movements Timeline and Presentations (200 points)**

Your final project for the year is to work in groups to create your group’s contribution to our larger American literary period timeline. You will work in groups based on a specific literary period, and create large posters that include both authors we’ve read in class as well as at least three other authors within your literary period that we have not. You should feel free to incorporate pictures, colors, paintings, book covers, cartoons, memes (keep it appropriate), or anything else you can dream up to make your timeline and presentation stand out and be engaging for your peers (the AP class will be judging them and awarding extra points to the best poster). **You should absolutely include important dates, works, historical, scientific, or social events/achievements that influence your literary movement, rival authors, and how works within your literary period act as arguments expanding, complicating, or flat-out confronting previous works/literary periods**. Remember, you are the expert on your authors and literary period, so be sure to contribute everything you think might be important, or could help your peers.

You may consider dividing responsibilities to help your group move along. For instance, if someone in the group has good handwriting, he or she could be put in charge of writing. If someone is resourceful, he or she could be put in charge of printing out pictures of authors, books, or whatever else you can think of. Ultimately, however, you are responsible for providing your group information on your specific author and this will be kept in mind when evaluating the final timeline.

**Considerations:**

1. What literary movement would you argue your writer took part in? Why? How?
2. What work(s) contribute to this argument? What characteristics, themes, or styles further reflect or validate it?
3. Who were the writer’s contemporaries?
4. What do literary critics offer in terms of their analysis of your writer’s works? Do these critical perspectives support or negate your own? How?
5. Did your writer’s work or themes change over the course of their lifetime?
6. Why is this writer’s work still being read?
7. How did politics, religion, or other academic areas (science, art, history, or even math) influence their work? How are they represented within the work?
8. Did the writer influence any other writers past or present?
9. What else should your classmates know about this writer?

**Movements:** Realism, Postmodernism, Southern Gothic, Puritan, Modernism, Transcendentalism, Gothic, Romanticism, Revolutionary, Harlem Renaissance, Naturalism

**Potential Authors**

Washington Irving Thomas Paine James Fenimore Cooper

Jack London Edgar Allan Poe Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Ralph Waldo Emerson Harriet Beecher Stowe Frederick Douglass

Nathaniel Hawthorne Herman Melville Walt Whitman

Emily Dickinson Wallace Stevens T.S. Eliot

Robert Frost Ezra Pound William Carlos Williams

E.E. Cummings Langston Hughes Sarah Orne Jewett

William Dean Howells Sherwood Anderson Edith Wharton

Stephen Crane Upton Sinclair Gertrude Stein

Sinclair Lewis Zora Neale Hurston Alice Walker

William Faulkner Allen Ginsberg Jack Kerouac

William S. Burroughs Norman Mailer Kurt Vonnegut

John Updike Flannery O’Connor Donald Barthelme

Raymond Carver Tobias Wolff Sylvia Plath

Toni Morrison Cormac McCarthy Don DeLillo

Denis Johnson Amy Tan Sherman Alexie

Leslie Marmon Silko Isaac Singer Thomas Pynchon

Theodore Roethke Richard Hugo Elizabeth Bishop

Willa Cather Ralph Ellison Walker Percy

Vladimir Nabokov Henry Miller Tennessee Williams

Linda Hogan Richard Ford