

GT Seminar AMI

I hope that you've had some time to rest, play, and do lots of what you like to do. I've been watching Netflix, cooking, talking to old friends, and working in my garden. I've also been thinking about you.

In this next few weeks, please work through the following assignments, and share your work with me by sending me a document or slide show of what you've created using **Google Slides** or **Google Docs** (share to my school email address). I will answer you, usually within a day.

You may also call, text, or email me if you have questions or would like to share something you've created. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

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We've talked this year, and recently, about how being gifted influences both our thinking and feeling. It's quite possible that recent developments in our world have impacted both domains. As you work through the following assignments, please be open to new learning, willing to share your thoughts honestly, and aware that a growth mindset creates new opportunities.

Gifted people are often very perceptive, intense, sensitive, and concerned about issues. Coronavirus, and the myriad of challenges that it creates for us, those closest to us, and people around the world, offers a unique chance to make connections to what we learn in books and online. The abstract becomes a bit more personal.

1) Think about what you've been doing, thinking, reading, feeling, learning, and wondering in the past two weeks. Write me a page or so describing the above. You can go beyond a school assignment, and write to me, a friend, yourself, a person in the future, the coronavirus, a younger sibling, a newspaper... Share your writing with me by email or by sharing your Google Doc with me. You can also write on other paper, take a picture, and send it by email or text.

2) I have used my time to plan meals, recover from mild illness, do a few chores, sort through my feelings, work on schoolwork, and relax. Unfortunately, I haven't done anything in the way of working on sign language or Spanish, sketching, doing calligraphy, or learning to play my dulcimer. I'm hoping that you've done better than I have, but if not, let's get back to work. I've had decent luck at becoming more productive by using a homemade chart to record my activities each day. Devise a way to keep track of your sign language or lettering practice, and share it with me at the end of a week. Describe what you are doing to practice, or send me a picture or a video clip using your phone, camera, or the Marco Polo app.

3) If you've been reading, tell me all about it. If not, get started, and then tell me about your book. You know from countless conversations (lectures ☺) that research says that reading is the one activity that makes a very real impact on your future. So let's do it!!

4) The top 10 job skills currently predicted to be needed in the future, according to "Future of Jobs Report," are:

- Complex problem-solving
- Critical thinking
- Creativity
- People management
- Coordinating with others
- Emotional intelligence
- Judgment and decision-making
- Service orientation
- Negotiation
- Cognitive flexibility

Choose one of the above skills, and make a plan to develop it during this time of isolation. How can you increase your future desirability as a skilled or professional worker? There are a million possibilities...

5) As we resume our study of the Holocaust, let's begin by connecting our world with that of people facing frightening events in the past.

Let's do an activity called "Twenty Pounds."

In the past as Jews and others were forced to leave their homes for the concentration camps, they were sometimes allowed to take twenty pounds of their most precious possessions. We've had some time this past couple of weeks to reflect on what we value most. If you were in a situation where you could take a light bag with you (an impending earthquake, tornado, or other emergency), not knowing if your belongings would be there when you returned, what would you take? You can write a list, explaining why each is important, or make a slide show or video, using images and words to share your choices.

6) Now imagine the opposite scenario, more like our current impending situation, where shopping and excursions, and perhaps money, are limited.

What do you most want if you're only allowed to ask for a few precious items? Why?

Are your choices needs, wants, or both?

Share your choices in whatever product form you like- an essay, poem, drawing, slide show, video, skit, game...

7) At our last high school meeting, we had a circle discussion. Students said the things that they were most looking forward to were school and family trips, being at home, and spring break. Their biggest concerns were homework, deadlines, absences, and coronavirus. We now have an odd mix of wishes and worries.

People have historically had a wide range of reactions to challenging times. Anne Frank wrote in her diary. Susan B. Anthony helped to organize a movement.

Gandhi chose nonviolent protest. Shamsia Hassani paints murals.

Make a poster, write a poem or song, or create an ad that reflects your response to these changes. Is it fair? Scary? Hopeful? Vital? Compelling? You decide.

Share your product with me.

8) We had hoped to do some more dissection. Find a virtual dissection site, and share it with me. I'll add them all to the GT website, and you can try each other's sites out.

9) Play a game of SET or chess online. Have fun!!

<https://www.setgame.com/set/puzzle>

<https://www.chess.com/play/computer>