Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**UNIT 1: BLOG/PORTFOLIO DUE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

1. Complete the following journals on your Unit 1 page of your blog/portfolio. (Click on the Unit 1 page of your blog. For EACH journal, write and publish a new post. Please make sure you title it with Journal #1/2/3.)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date Due | Date Published & Your Initials | Journal Topic | Score (Teacher Use Only) |
|  |  | #1: A mandala is a visual representation of your identity and culture. Through the use of symbols and colors, your mandala should paint a clear picture of who you are and the elements that combine to make you unique. In one well-developed paragraph (6-8 sentences), explain in detail the symbols and colors you have utilized, as well as how the mandala represents you as a whole. |  |
|  |  | #2: Choose and reflect on one of Sandra Cisneros’s memoirs from *The House on Mango Street*. You may want to answer the following questions: What did you learn about Cisneros’s identity from this piece? What did you learn about Cisneros’s culture from this piece? How did her use of figurative language in this piece add to the interest of her writing? |  |
|  |  | #3: Choose one cultural tradition that you find particularly interesting and unique. This may be one we discussed in class or one you have discovered in your research. In one well-developed paragraph, explain: Who, What, When, Where, Why (and How, if applicable). Then, answer the following questions: What, in your opinion, makes this tradition or custom so different and unique to us as Americans? How would you react, as an American, if you were transplanted into this culture to take part in this custom? |  |

1. Comment on at least two of your peers’ journals on each topic. (Find their websites by viewing the Student Blog page on Ms. Y’s Blog.) Note: You must comment on SIX different people. Tip: Don’t just say “Good job,” or “I agree,” or “You suck.” Comment in a way that does one of the following:

* Starts a discussion,
* Offers constructive criticism/feedback,
* Gives the writer something new to consider.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Journal # | I commented on these people’s journals… | On these dates… | Score (Teacher Use Only) |
| #1 | 1)  2) |  |  |
| #2 | 1)  2) |  |  |
| #3 | 1)  2) |  |  |

1. Complete a Unit Reflection on your blog. Respond to the following in whatever format you prefer.

* What is your single most important take-away from this unit?
* What was your greatest success in this unit?
* What was your greatest challenge in this unit?
* What did you enjoy in this unit? Consider: Texts, Activities, Lessons, etc.
* What did you not enjoy in this unit? What are some weaknesses we can do to improve this unit? Consider: Texts, Activities, Lessons, etc.
* Anything else I need to know about this unit?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date Published & Your Initials | Score & Comments (Teacher Use Only) |
|  |  |

1. Published Writing Piece: Personal Memoir (please post to blog by August 26)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date Published & Your Initials | Score & Comments (Teacher Use Only) |
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**TEACHER USE ONLY: Ms. Yeganegi’s Feedback to you on your Unit 1 Blog/Portfolio**