

Bloomfield High School  
Social Studies Department  
Summer Reading  
2017

*Incoming grade 9, World History Students*

The following assignment is for students **entering** World History this year, for most students this will mean they were in eighth grade last year and are entering ninth grade. Please check your schedule to ensure that you are in World History for the upcoming school year.

Please complete the assignment **prior to** the first day of school. Your specific World History teacher will ask for and collect this assignment within the **first two weeks (September 6<sup>th</sup> to September 15<sup>th</sup>)** of school. None the less please have the work completed **before** the first day of school to ensure that you are ready regardless of your specific teacher's deadline. This assignment will count as extra credit and will be added on to your grade in September to ensure you get off to a successful start.

You are expected to obtain a copy of the book on your own. A copy is available from the Bloomfield Public Library, local bookstores, and electronic retailers.

Assignment:

Read *Small Acts of Amazing Courage* by Gloria Whelan.

For this assignment, you are to choose **one** of the following assignments. They are sorted into three categories of activities: essay, art, or technology.

Essay Type Projects:

1. Write a Diary or Journal: Choose 3 events based on one character from the above book and write 3 entries of at least a page each. Make sure you go above and beyond the obvious for each entry. Be very specific with your thoughts and feeling, and be sure the entries are accurate with the book.
2. Write a book review: Read the above book and write your opinion of it from the perspective of a critic. Your critique should be at least 2 pages and express your own personal opinion. Be sure to use at least 3 examples from the book to support your opinion.

3. Write a letter to Gandhi: Write a letter to Gandhi from the perspective of one of the MAIN characters in the book. Make sure you think of the following: Why is your character writing this letter? What do they want from Gandhi? What would you like to say to Gandhi? Your letter should be at least 2 pages and include a voice that is true to the character you choose.

#### Craft Based Projects:

4. Create a movie poster: Design a movie poster for the *Small Acts of Amazing Courage*. The movie poster must be done on poster board and include the following: title of the book, one scene from the story as the centerpiece of the poster, and a list of 5 actors/actresses who will be playing characters from the book. Your poster must be colored and done with pride.
5. Create a storyboard: Imagine Pixar or DreamWorks were to make an animated film for *Small Acts of Amazing Courage*. Before any animated film is produced storyboards must be created to give animators an idea of what the story writers intended for each scene. Your assignment is to create a six panel story board for 2 events from the book. Your storyboard must include color and dialogue between the characters present in the scene.

#### Technology Based Projects:

6. Produce an Old Time Radio Broadcast: Before there were cell phones, video recorders, computer generated images, etc. there was a different type of technology that captured imaginations...radio. What you will do with this assignment is produce a radio broadcast done in a early radio style where you read the story and record it. Think about it as an audio book but each character needs to be acted out. For this assignment you will highlight the entire book and create an hour broadcast that chronicles the major events throughout the entire book. You have one hour to make the whole story come together in a coherent way. Be sure to name each segment with an appropriate name. This assignment will be turned in on an audio CD or jump drive and needs to be in a format that is readily available. Making it work is part of your assignment.
7. Create a Mini-Movie: Make a movie of 3 scenes from *Small Acts of Amazing Courage*. Each scene needs to include dialogue, appropriate dress for each character, and include a 3 different settings reminiscent of scenes as described in the book. Once again this assignment has a playability component to it. You must turn in a DVD that will play or use a readily available (iMovie, Movie Maker, etc.) video software that will work on school computers.