10th Grade - Social Studies
Summer Reading
Between Shades of Gray by Ruta Sepetys
Due Monday, August 28, 2017

Historical Background: The global post-World War I despair and depression provided for the rise of various totalitarian regimes in the 1920s and 1930s Europe. Included in this list is Joseph Stalin, who rose to power over the Soviet Union in 1924. Stalin infamously used his secret police, the NKVD, to create fear and maintain complete control over the Soviet Union. In 1934, Stalin began his Great Purge where according to the NKVD "a staggering 1,575,000 people were detained and 681,692 were shot during 1937-1938" (Jarausch 251). In 1940, the Soviet Union annexed the Baltic States of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania. The occupation of Lithuania, which is the homeland of the main character Lina and her family, included the forced migration of thousands of Lithuanian to labor camps in Siberia, many of whom would die of disease, exposure and starvation. In *Between Shades of Grey*, Ruta Sepetys merges the true eye-witness accounts of Lithuanian survivors into a single first person narrative that explains the hardships and struggles experienced by these persecuted people.

<div align="center">Works Cited</div>

Jarausch, Konrad. *Out of Ashes: A New History of Europe in the Twentieth Century*, Princeton University Press, 2015.

Requirements

    1. Read *Between Shades of Gray* by Ruta Sepetys.

    2. Follow the directions to complete the assignment.

        a. **NOTE: Honors students have special directions and slightly higher expectations..**

    3. **Formatting for all writing sections**

        a. 12 font, Times New Roman

        b. Double Spaced

        c. MLA Heading at the top of the first page, Page numbers/last name- top right header

        d. MLA Works Cited and In-text citations if necessary

            1) MLA 8 Works Cited Guideline for Electronic Sources

            https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/08/

            2) MLA 8 In-text Citation Guidelines

            https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/02/

        e. Points will be subtracted for grammar, spelling and/or writing style errors.

        f. All assignments should be turned in as a single document.

            1) Mr. Finkenbiner World History CP - Google Classroom

            2) Mr. McShane World History Honors - Google Classroom

Plagiarism Warning- Plagiarism WILL NOT BE TOLERATED! Plagiarism is representing someone else's ideas, words, or format and passing it off as your own work! Whenever the words or ideas of another author are used you <u>must</u> give the author proper credit with an MLA in-text citation and full citation on the works cited page. Changing words but copying the sentence structure of a source is still considered plagiarism. Please contact Mr. Finkenbiner or Mr. McShane at their school email if you have any questions or concerns.

Task 1: Additional Background Research- <u>Optional</u>

1. The additional background research on Lithuania, the Soviet Union, and Germany during the 1930s and 1940s is an optional activity that you can do before or during reading *Between Shades of Gray*. Understanding the historical background to the events of the book may help you better comprehend the perspective of the main character Lina and the events in the book. Two useful websites are…
   a. United States Holocaust Memorial Museum
      http://www.ushmm.org/wlc/en/article.php?ModuleId=10005444
   b. Global Museum of Communism
      http://lithuania.globalmuseumoncommunism.org/

Task 2: Your task is to read the novel, *Between Shades of Gray* by Ruta Sepetys and write 3 separate journal entries from **3 different perspectives (75 points)**

1. Write three journal entries **as if you were any 3 of the minor characters**. The book is written from Lina's point of view. Your task is to highlight **3 different events** from **3 different perspectives**. For example, you could write from the perspective of Lina's mother, brother and father, or from the perspective of Andrius, the bald man and the man who winds his watch. You could even write from the perspective of Kretsky or Ulyuska, as long as it is three separate individual characters. Each entry should
   a. Consist of a 2 paragraph journal entry (**Paragraph length CP 5-7 sentences, Honors 7-9**)
   b. Identify the speaker, location and time period (who, where, when)
   c. Include a detailed description of the event.
   d. Include a detailed reaction to the event from the perspective of your speakers. Think about how the character would react to Lina's actions during the event, how it would affect your character, and what their emotions would be at the time.

Task 2 Rubric- 25 points for each journal entry

Mechanics (Grammar, Style, Format)	/5
Description/Perspective	/10
Reaction	/10
Total	/25 points for each entry
Final Grade	/75

Quiz: A quiz will be administered within the first few days of school to test your understanding of the novel. **(25 points)**