**English 8/9 Portfolio Assignment Option – Body Biography Assignment**

Working with a group, partner, OR on your own, you will be creating a visual portrait of the protagonist of a novel of your choice. The point of this assignment is to show your deep understanding of the protagonist, and express your understanding in a variety of ways.

If you want an example you can search for “body biography examples” online or see Ms Atkinson in A140.

Start by drawing an outline of your character’s body. You can use 11x17 paper or something even larger.

**Then, you’ll complete the following, right on the body or around it. Figure out a way to depict each of the following, visually or in words. Try to create an image that is coherent and comprehensive. This is not an art class, though – you will not be assessed on your artistic achievement. Colour is a great tool for expression for those of us not gifted at drawing.**

* **Heart:** Who or what is most important to the character?
* **Spine:** What drives this character? What are the goals and objectives that he or she is pursuing?
* **Virtues and Vices:** What are the character’s greatest strengths and weaknesses?
* **Symbols:** What objects or physical things best represent your character? There may be objects from the text that you can use, or you might choose your own. (at least 3)
  + **NOTE:** Be creative and original in your symbols! They shouldn’t be obvious or stock.
* **Mirror**: Include a mirror somewhere on your page. The inside of the mirror should show your character as they see themselves.
* **Changes:** How does the character change throughout the work – or not? Find a way to depict the changes, or lack of changes, your character undergoes.
* **Three quotes** from the novel that capture the character’s essence

If you would like, you can also hand in a brief explanation of your work.