The second quarter of Honors 9 has been devoted to reading and examining the issues and themes of *To Kill a Mockingbird* in addition to multiple discrepant texts. Now you will be writing a synthesis essay utilizing the material you have been exposed to throughout the quarter.

The main purpose of a synthesis essay is to make insightful **connections**. Those connections can

show the relationship(s) between parts of a work or even between two or more works. It is your job to explain why those relationships are important.

**A synthesis is not a summary. A synthesis is** an opportunity to create new knowledge out of

already existing knowledge, i.e., other sources. You combine, “synthesize,” the information in your sources to develop an argument or a unique perspective on a topic. Your claim becomes a one-sentence presentation of your perspective and identifies the new knowledge that you will create.

**Step 1 – Due Wednesday, January 4, 2017:**

Choose **one theme** from the left column below AND **two discrepant texts** from the right column below (You will use *TKM* also). This will be the focus of your essay.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Issue/Theme Options:**  **Circle one theme of focus** | **Discrepant Text Options:**  **Circle two discrepant texts of focus** |
| |  | | --- | | -What **stereotypes** and prejudices exist in our world?  -What is **equality**? How can we work to achieve it?    -What is the difference between **moral and physical**  **courage**?    -Why is it so difficult for people to **stand up and do**  **what is right**?  -Why is it important to **consider things from others’ point of view**…to climb in their skin and walk around in it?  -What is the role of **courage in** bringing about **social change**? | | “Can the Law Make Us Be Decent”  Jay Sterling Silver  Zach Lederer video  http://espn.go.com/video/clip?id=7669418  Malala Yousafzai article & interview <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gjGL6YY6oMs>  “Salvation” Langston Hughes  *Mississippi Trial, 1955*, by Chris Crowe  “I Have a Dream”, Martin Luther King, Jr. |

**Objective/Purpose of Essay:**

You willmake insightful connections between *To Kill a Mockingbird* and two other discrepant texts. It is your job to explain why those relationships are important. **A synthesis is not a summary.** You will combine, “synthesize,” the information in the novel and discrepant texts to develop a claim or a unique perspective on a topic. Your claim becomes a one-sentence claim that presents how the theme is apparent in the texts we have explored this quarter.