**English 10H – Coming of Age Outside Reading Book – Writing Assignment**

**Option One: Analytical Essay**

In coming of age stories, some combination of the following forces drives the primary character to go through a period of growth: separation from parents, the desire to be accepted and identified as a part of a social group, and the influence that race, culture, language, gender, and social class have on conceptions of self.

Write an analytical essay that identifies and explores the forces that drive the primary character in your book to mature as well as the essential ideas that are developed throughout the text. Think about the ways that ideas are developed within the story. Push yourself to develop a claim that is an *arguable assertion* rather than a *statement of fact*. Listed below are some templates that might help you get started in this direction:

* (Author) uses (character’s) journey from \_\_\_ to \_\_\_to explore the idea that \_\_\_\_\_.
* In (Text), (author) uses (developmental details) to (plot detail) and (big idea).

* (Character’s) growth from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_ demonstrates (big idea).

- 800 - 1000 words

- Use citations for DQs and references to specific scenes within the text.

**Option Two: Short Story**

In coming of age stories, characters experience slow, gradual growth as well as isolated moments of transformation. Write a short story in which a character experiences significant growth as a result of a single event/moment/experience. Your story should start before the moment and end after it is over. The character’s growth should be apparent to readers but never explicitly stated.

Write an explication paragraph in which you connect the moment to one of the forces described in option one.

- You must include the explication paragraph to receive credit for the assignment.

Timeline:

Final paper due Tuesday, March 31 (must submit to turnitin.com and bring hard copy to class to receive credit.

50 points