

## Project About Me

Due: Monday, April 2, 2007

*The theme of our year in 8<sup>th</sup> grade is racial and social justice. What better way to understand this topic than to look at our own immediate world, what we are about, what we stand for, and then to look outside our own society where lives are truly unequal. It is very important to look beyond the here and now, and look to our past and to where we are headed to fully understand and appreciate our lives. This project is comprehensive and will include five different types of writing styles—narrative, creative, research, persuasive and business letter. It will also be broken down into five parts, to make it more manageable.*

### Part I: My Family—Narrative (5 pages) (50 points)

*In this section you will not only describe your immediate family, but you will question and interview family members such as aunts, uncles, grandparents, cousins—whichever is available to you---about your own family. Guideline questions:*

*What is your nationality? What countries? Research your family's genealogy. How far back can you trace? What does your family name mean? Example: Vainisi is a town in Italy. What are some old stories or traditions that you know? What part of the country are your parents from? Has any member been in a war? If so—which one—and if they are willing to talk—what were their experiences? Has anyone done something extraordinary--or famous? Where do you take family vacations?*

### Part II: Poem or Short Story—Creative (1-3 pages, 1-page poem, 3 pages short story) (20 points)

*This section is an original piece of writing created for this assignment, but can certainly have ideas from previous classes, experiences, or writings. Does a particular journal entry stand out? What else have you created that you would like to expand on?*

### Part III: Genocide--Country--Research (4-5 pages). (60 points)

*In this section you will research a country in which genocide has taken place. Examples are: Rwanda, Somalia, Armenia, Darfur, Bosnia. You will research one of these countries in depth and you will write a report that states what happened during the genocide, how it left the country, and how it happened. During a genocide, there are usually particular steps a dictator or the government takes to ensure the rest of the world does not necessarily view it as a genocide. If you find particular stories of individual families or people, feel free to write about their plight. You must have a thesis in your introduction that you can defend throughout your entire paper.*

- 1. It must have internal documentation of sources.*
- 2. You must use at least 5 sources—2 of which must be non-internet related.*
- 3. It must have a bibliography—cited accurately.*

Part IV: Personal Goals and Creed—Narrative and Persuasive (2 pages) (20 points)

Narrative--You will state what your own immediate goals are—Your 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Goals in your journal—but expand on them. What do you want to do beyond high school and college? What are your personal or career goals? This section ends with a creed.

Persuasive—My Personal Creed—This section starts with the words, I believe in... You will fill in the rest.

Part V—Resume—Business Writing (1 page) (10 points)

Should be labeled with name, address, telephone number, email, objective

- Education
- Personal Achievement
- Volunteer/Charitable Work
- Extracurricular Activities

Cover page

- Title
- Name and full heading
- Pictures or symbols or drawings that represent you

Each five sections should be separated with a page that states, Part I: My Family, Part II: Poem...

We will spend at least 9 (nine) computer labs on this assignment, but please do not wait until the last minute. I will help you in any way you need. Do not forget that my email address is: kvainisi@ascension-school.com, if you have any questions.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_