**Modern Dilemmas Research Reflection**

**Is America A Healthy Democracy?**

**A Project/Paper Grade in 3 parts.**

Current Event (individual grade)

Power Point (or media) Presentation (group grade)

Reflective Paper-Term 3 Paper #1 (individual grade)

**Part I. Chapter Reading** (Jigsawed Homework) **Due February 9th**

The class will be divided into 3 groups, with each group reading a different chapter of   
the textbook *The Challenege of Democracy* (Janda, Berry, and Goldman). Each member of the group is responsible for mastering that chapter’s content and presenting it to the class. While a student’s understanding of the material would be improved if he/she read the whole chapter assigned, I broke up each chapter into segmented sections if your group wishes to break up the work among yourselves. Under each segmented section of the chapter, I suggest terms, questions, and topics to discuss as a small group that would then be shared with the class.

**You will be given one night of homework to complete this reading.**

**Part II. The Current Event** (Individual Grade.) **Due: February 10th**

**Choose a current event** that represents a controversial, pressing modern dilemma affecting our society today that connects in some way to your assigned chapter of reading. **Cut it out** from a newspaper or a magazine, or **you can download it** from an online source. **Read** the news article through thoroughly so that **in your small reading group** and later, **during your class power point presentation**, you will share:

* Your understanding of the event- offer where and when it happened, who it affected, any local, national, and global repercussions of it.
* How the dilemma connects to your chapter reading
* Your group’s and your personal opinion on the matter.

**You will be given one weekend to find, read, and understand your topic’s connection   
to your assigned reading.**

**Part III. The Power Point** (Group grade)- **Due/Presentations Begin: February 12th**

As a member of a group that focuses around a selected chapter of reading, you will **teach other members of the class about your chapter through a power point presentation.** You will also share your current event’s connection to your reading with the class. (**NOTE:** Look at the bullets from Part II)

**Slide Requirements:**

* A “Title slide”
* A minimum of 5 “Content Slides” on the chapter reading
* Several Slides that focus on specific events/topics (the members’ current events). You do not need a slide for each member’s event; they can be grouped together on slides.
* A “Bibliography Slide” in MLA format

**Your power point presentation should:**

* Connect aspects of America’s democracy to the reading
* Evaluate how well America achieves its purpose of maintaining order, ensuring freedom, and promoting equality (the chapter 1 reading) in regards to the members’ topics/events
* Be shared with Mr. Haflin with permission to edit/download  
   **You will have one class period and one night of homework to prepare your slides .**

**Part IV. Personal Reflective Paper** (an individual grade) **Due: February 22nd**In a reflective paper that meets your level’s requirements, evaluate how well America functions as a democracy. Focus your paper around ONE topic/dilemma as a base argument. (NOTE: It does NOT need to be your current event topic). You should cite evidence gathered from all the reading and the power points presented.

**Level Modifications**

**Level 2-** a minimum of 2 ½ pages and a max of 3 ½ pages. A total of at least 4 citations from a total of 2 sources.   
**Level 3-** a minimum of 2 pages and a max of 3 pages. A total of at least 3 citations from a total of 2 sources.

**Level 2-** a minimum of 1 ½ pages and a max of 2 ½ pages. A total of at least 2 citations from a total of 2 sources.