

## Multimodal Literacy Unit Final Project

**Overview:** Multimodal means occurring in or existing in many modes. Mode (as we will use it) means a form or means of something (such as conveying grief through an image). You will learn various reading strategies to help you read and analyze nonfiction writing along with various forms of media. You will develop your skills detecting bias and your ability to compare fact and opinion. By the end of the unit, you should understand more about how forms of media work and be able to demonstrate your ability to express your ideas effectively through various modes.

1. During this unit, you will complete a **research paper** that focuses on a **topic** that connects with either *Fences* or *The Bean Trees*. Your research will be based on an **open-ended question** you develop. You will write up your research into a paper that answers that question. That paper will include evidence of the **question**, your process **writing**, and your **conclusion**.
2. You will also learn about a range of **media-based considerations**, issues, resources, and applications. You will explore ways to find out if facts and news can be believed; ways to assess websites themselves for validity; and to investigate the people posting information. You will present your topic AND your understanding of how media works on a Google Site (mock website).

3. Please review the chart below to help you anticipate how you will be assessed as well as to help you anticipate what you will be learning how to do by the end of the unit. [Previewing is a reading strategy!]

Task/ Element	Paper-at-a-glance	Google Site
<b>Focus</b>	Topic from one of our texts Research question you develop	Topic is only the starting point. Through the site you try to persuade audience about some aspect about the topic you have concluded is important.
<b>Layout</b>	Standard essay – MLA formatting; includes Works Cited	Personalized web site → edited from a template
<b>Content</b>	At least three reliable sources (articles, interviews, etc.).	Your research paper + rubric A summary of the topic + explanation of your site Headlines or other tools to get the audience to stay or click Visual interest (cited images) At least one other feature (music link; video link... YOUR CHOICE!)
<b>Additional elements</b>	At least one quotation or cited detail per paragraph. The strongest papers will be 5-6 paragraphs in length.	A strong site will have an appealing layout; visuals that display something about the topic; techniques (headlines or other choices) that show rhetorical device understanding (ex. appeal to emotion or logic OR you establish yourself as an authority).