



However we know the landscape – An Illuminated Text Project for Honors World Literature

In this project, you and your partner are to use Microsoft Power Point, Apple Keynote, Apple i-motion, Adobe After Effects, or any other software that allows you to fashion an animation or video that explicates (explains or illuminates) text from the poems and texts that we have studied these first few weeks of World Literature. You will find (if you do this correctly) that the hard (and interesting) part is not the technology, but **the ideas, creativity, and the text that you choose**. You should begin by going to our website and looking at as many of the Illuminated

Texts that are there as you can (don't just "look" take notes on what works well). **These projects are due Monday, November 2** and are worth 800 points. In many ways – this is the ideal remote learning exercise.

Most of the candidates for your Illuminated Texts come from the introductory poems (and quotes) that came before we read *The History of Love* and what we will read in *Candide*. In addition to these poems, you can also choose something else related to what we've been studying. Though you should view as many Illuminated Texts as you can at our website (many of the sections on the website have Illuminated Texts) – you should stay away from viewing any that are directly related to the poem or text that you will be doing as you don't want to be influenced **too much**.

Each poem may be done by only one set of partners per class (so we don't have 12 versions of "Sakura Park"). There will be a sign up sheet that I will post in Google Classroom – and poems (and texts) will be given out on a first come, first reserved basis. The sign-up sheet will also have *The Street of Crocodiles* broken down into sections – (they are marked A-D on the sheet you were given when we read this in class). If you sign up for this you must choose the next available slot for that work – in other words, Section A must already have a set of partners assigned before you could take Section B.

When you watch any of the Illuminated Texts you will quickly discover that it is the cleverness of your word choice and what you have the text, letters, fonts, etc. do that creates a successful and *illuminating presentation*. Think about this project while you do the rest of your reading – think of ideas for possible *Illuminated Texts*. For instance: if you were doing the poem "Sakura Park" you could literally make the words blow around the screen like the persona's words.

Once you have your text, then you can begin to find a way of illuminating the words (making their meaning clearer). In your presentation, you will show the text from the novel along with an optional picture¹ (either in the background or inset within your video), music (one or more songs and/or sound effects), as well as using the text animation effects (this is the most important part, and the part that most of your grade will come from) found in Power Point (or any of the other programs) to help the viewer better understand what is taking place in the text.

In any case, as you set the pictures to music try to be very conscious of the following:

- ☐ **If you can record the music yourself (either you or a friend performing) that is definite bonus.** It still should be a public domain song or an original composition.
- ☐ As a CPS student, you may download the newest version of PowerPoint for free!
- ☐ You **must provide a Video** (not a Power Point or Keynote file) – Power Point 2010 and later as well as later version of Keynote allow you to save your presentation as a video. I suggest that you do a test immediately – make a quick (after 5 minutes of starting this) presentation and see if you can save it as a video.
- ☐ Pictures are the least important part of this project, though one may be included as long as they don't detract from the text. For this first Illuminated Text, you are allowed to have only one picture. See the "Summer is Gone" Illuminated Text by Lisa Danforth.
- ☐ Songs Allowed: You are also encouraged to record your own music, if you are a musician – try to make sure the composition is original (yes, we have some very talented people at our school) or the composition is in the Public Domain.
- ☐ Songs Not Allowed: These songs have been overdone and are not allowed: Pacabel's Cannon in D, Moonlight Sonata, Fur Elise, any of the gymnopedie compositions. Try to find something that doesn't sound familiar – jazz, blue grass, renaissance.
- ☐ You must have at least one song. I strongly suggest that you **use a song without words** (classical, instrumental, etc.) Words in a song can quickly overpower the words you are attempting to illuminate. Karaoke versions of songs work fine as well.
- ☐ **You must use Public Domain music** (both the composition and the performance must be in the Public Domain [copyright free]). See below.

¹ You can only use ONE picture and I have found that some of the most effective, powerful presentations of this sort – do NOT use pictures and all the text to speak for itself (well maybe not completely by itself – you will use movement, color, etc.)

- ❑ **Your song must either be timed to end with the presentation or you must fade it out at the end of your video** (you can fade out songs with Power Point or Keynote). Presentations which have abruptly ending or cut off music will be penalized (grade wise).
- ❑ The majority of your presentation should contain text animation. Every idea in the poem or text should have a movement that explains that idea – makes it CLEARER to the viewer. Be clever.
- ❑ Your pictures should very closely follow the words and/or music in some meaningful way (in other words the pictures should illuminate the words – not simply be somehow related to them)
- ❑ Feel free to stick to one page, one paragraph, or combine texts to come up with a bigger meaning (see my presentation and your group works)

CHOOSING A PARTNER IS KEY – It is so important to find someone who will work as hard as you – and ideally, complement your skills.

Public Domain Music

Public Domain music is music that holds no copyright and may be freely used (sometimes this is restricted to nonmonetary – like what we are doing, use). This does NOT mean a cover (or instrumental) of a song. Please make sure you it is public domain.

You must use music found in the Public Domain. A great source for this is Musopen.com (www.musopen.com). They literally have thousands of MP3's (or Ogg files that can be converted to MP3's using Audacity [see below]) that you can download for free and use without paying royalties. They mainly have classical and jazz songs. Here is a site for soundeffects:

<http://www.freesound.org/browse/>. You are free to look for other sites – but please be cautious, as always, on the web. **Once a composition is found mark it on our chart – songs may NOT be repeated in each period. If you find a new Public Domain site and bring it to our attention, and it checks out, I will give you 20 points EC.**

Audacity and Music

Audacity is a free program that allows you edit music files – this is a must if you want to fade your music out because the song is too long for your presentation. Audacity can be found at <http://audacity.sourceforge.net/>. Please note this is a FREE program – if it ever asks you to pay you are at the wrong site. They have great tutorial links there on how to use it. Please note – in addition to downloading Audacity – you will also need to download the LAME codec – again, there are detailed instructions at the website on how to do this.

Power Points and Video

You will not be allowed to submit a Power Point or Keynote file – you must convert them to a video. With the latest versions of Power Point this is not an issue (and remember, you can download Power Point for free as a student). TEST it immediately!

Access to a Computer

If neither you nor your partner have access to a computer – please be sure to request one from the school – make sure you time things

Using Power Point & Keynote

Lisa Danforth has created some incredible tutorials (as a series of handouts as well as a screencast) on our Website. There are handouts for Power Point 2003, 2007, & 2010 Remember, use Power Point 2010 or later – it has a built in function to save as video. There is also a handout (tutorial) for Apple Keynote (which has its own special abilities and problems).

Poems and Texts that you may choose (remember to sign up right away when you find one you want to do)

Poems before *The History of Love*

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| 1. "The Apple Orchard" Rilke | 7. "Moving Forward" Rilke |
| 2. "Autumn" Rilke | 8. "As once the winged energy" Rilke |
| 3. "Childhood" Rilke | 9. "Before Summer Rain" Rilke |
| 4. "Growing Old" Rilke | 10. "Sakura Park" Wetzsteon |
| 5. "Again, and again..." Rilke | 11. "Being is forged in common" Bruno Schulz |
| 6. "Ode on a Grecian Urn" Keats | 12. "The End and the Beginning" Szymborka (on your Everything is Illuminated questions) |

Poems before *Candide*

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| 11. "To You" Koch | 15. "Not Waving But Drowning" Smith |
| 12. "Travel" Milay | 16. "Lines Indicated...Poverty" Nash |
| 13. "Eldorado" Poe | 17. "Pompeii" Bernstein |
| 14. "A Burnt Ship" (small...so expect a lot) | 18. "Cocoa Beans" Cooper 19. "Socorro!" by Nicanor Parro |

The Street of Crocodiles – even broken into 4 sections these are still very large – you may cut as you wish and as long as it still makes sense – just be sure to get that sections most beautiful lines and its sense (as you see it) across. Also remember these must be taken in order (ie don't take B unless A is taken) Section A Section B Section C Section D

The Last Page of *The Great Gatsby* – this page borders on being too long for one Illuminated Text – therefore, there are some special rules for it

1. Your Illuminated Text may be as long as 6 minutes (as opposed to 4 minutes for the rest).
2. Three people may work on it (if it is longer than 5 minutes)
3. Sorry – the words are too good – don't cut or alter a single one

A special request for another poem – If you have a poem that you really want to do and it fits in well with what we've talked about so far this year in our class (truth, searching, drifting, discovering your past, etc.), first talk to your teacher. I really love to add to our range of texts!

