

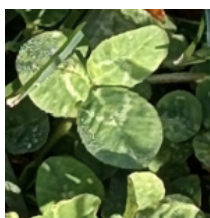


Prepare to Craft and Draft Summative Assessment Final Thoreau Reflection Honors English 11

Throughout the academic year, we have taken time each month to “Track Thoreau” through our nature journals and reflections. We have also taken time each month to read some of Thoreau’s *Walden* and then hold onto our thinking by chatting with a School AI bot and responding to the reading. Like a biologist who seeks to gain a better understanding of bears by tracking them down in their natural habitat, we have sought to better understand Thoreau and transcendentalism, by reading his work and exploring his “natural habitat” - the outdoors.

The goal of this summative is for you to demonstrate an authentic, unique and personal understanding of Henry David Thoreau’s work, *Walden*, and the philosophy of transcendentalism.

Formative Work



Discover the Meaning of Transcendentalism

What is transcendentalism?

It’s the name for a philosophical and literary movement which began in the United States in the mid 1800s.

Who was a transcendentalist?

Henry David Thoreau, author of *Walden* and many other works, is considered by many scholars to be the most famous transcendentalist. To learn which authors were also transcendentalists, visit this site:

<http://www.vcu.edu/engweb/transcendentalism/index.html>

What did transcendentalists believe?

“...The transcendentalists believed that there was more to reality than what a person could experience with their senses and more knowledge than what a person could discover through human reason”

(<http://www.philosophyslam.org/thoreau.html>).

Thoreau closely studied nature at Walden Pond because, as a transcendentalist, he believed that a true understanding of oneself and the universe was only possible through a close observation of and connection to nature.



Read and respond to *Walden*

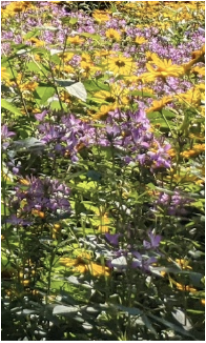
Review all of your completed *Walden* responses and related School AI chats from this semester and last semester. Look for connections between your experiences and Thoreau's experiences. You will be hyperlinking your work on these documents to your Final Thoreau Reflection.



Review Your Completed Nature Journal Entries

Review all of your nature journal entries from this semester and last semester. Look for connections between your experiences and Thoreau's experiences.

Summative Work



Draft & Craft Your Final Thoreau Reflection

To ensure the [authenticity and originality of your work, you will create a breadcrumb trail](#) for this reflection paper. This will include the specified Google Classroom assignment and hyperlinks to your previously completed nature journal responses (September through May) and reader's responses (School AI chats) to *Walden*.