Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **Transcendentalism Culminating Assessment:**

**Common Application College Essay**

Choose ONE essay prompt to write about. **You will craft a 650 word (or less) college essay**. It needs to be typed, double-spaced and in 12 point font (Times New Roman). *It must be uploaded to Richer Picture* AND *Turnitin.com* (account information for *Turnitin.com* can be found on my website mrspavao.weebly.com). You will be graded according to the REFLECTIVE WRITING School-Wide Rubric. **This is worth a TEST grade and it is due:**

You’ll notice that the prompts relate to ideas from *Self-Reliance*, *Nature, Walden* and *Civil Disobedience*; however, these responses should be unique to YOU and DO NOT need to reference our unit. *The purpose of our unit was to embark on a journey of self-discovery; the purpose of this essay is to successfully complete a college essay that you can use next year to apply to schools!*

**2016-2017 Common Application Essay Prompts**

* Some students have a background or **story that is so central to their identity** that they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.

* Discuss an accomplishment or event, or realization that sparked a **period of personal growth** and a new understanding of yourself or others.
* **Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea**.  What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
* The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when **you faced a challenge, setback, or failure**. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
* **Describe a problem you've solved or a problem you'd like to solve**. It can be an intellectual challenge, a research query, an ethical dilemma - anything that is of personal importance, no matter the scale. Explain its significance to you and what steps you took or could be taken to identify a solution.
* Describe a **topic, idea, or concept** you find so engaging that it makes you **lose all track of time**. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?

**TIPS:**

* Take time to work on your **OPENING STATEMENT**. Make an impact!
* **Think in terms of METAPHORS and SIMILES** (ex/ traveling to Europe= going to college- planning, being nervous about visiting a new place, successfully meeting new people/making friends/adapting to a new environment)
* Remember to **introduce** your ideas, **elaborate** then **close** your piece.
* *In the closing,* ***explain why the story you’ve told or experience you have shared makes you a good candidate for a college.***