**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Hour: \_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Research Project**

**Mission Possible**

**English 109**

This week we will begin our research project for English 109. This project will start now and will be due in January. The project will focus on a significant social problem worth examining. In this research study, you will choose some particular aspect of a problem. Given the environment crisis, for example, you might explore the problem of waste disposal. Or you might research and write about rain forests. Ideally, you will choose a topic that both interests and concerns you; one you truly care about! However, you might choose a problem that is unfamiliar, that you do not understand. Homelessness might be an example. In any case, keep an open, questioning mind. Challenge your own attitudes and expectations. Be willing to learn about something so you can know the truth.

You will be required to research a topic of your choice that is school appropriate. Some topic ideas will be explored in class. No topics may be repeated in one class. Topics are approved on a first come, first taken basis.

This paper will not be a typical research paper. You will not just locate information and retell it to your reader. Your mission (and you have to accept it) is to incorporate your research in a narrative format. In other words, you will be telling a story, supporting your statements with research. More information on this will be coming.

You will be required to cite at **LEAST** **FIVE** different sources in your paper. You are required to turn in ALL notes and ALL sources found. PLEASE, do not feel limited to five sources! The more sources and information you have, the easier writing this paper will be. (Those who used more sources had a much easier time writing this paper.) Your paper is to be 5-7 pages in length (This only pertains to the body of your paper.)

We will spend several days researching in class, but I strongly recommend that you also go to the library to find the sources you need to complete the work. (Again, those who did this in previous years finished early and did a really good job.) Even though we will be spending a significant amount of class time on this project, **you should be working on it at home also.**

You will monitored on your daily progress. If you are using sources from the library, be sure to bring in your material to work on in class. “I’m doing my work at home,” will not be accepted as a reason to do nothing in class.

Helpful Tips:

1) Focus on the steps, not the end product at first – that may be too overwhelming!

2) Use your time wisely. You will have to be motivated to work independently.

3) Ask me for help. Set up an appointment for after school.

4) DO NOT PLAGIARIZE!

5) Please attempt things on your own first -- it’s the best way to learn. I will need to help a lot of you so please allow others to ask me questions, too. We all need to practice patience.

6) The Internet. Be careful. While being a great place to find information, it can also give you false information. YOU MAY NOT USE ANY .COM SITES AS REFERENCE MATERIAL. You may go to .com sites to find reliable references and ideas.

Use the Mel.org site and go to Databases. You may have to explore quite a few before you find what you need for this assignment. We will practice this in class.

You will be given note sheets on which to record your research sources and notes. One source might give you information you can use in more than one area of your paper. Take good notes and be sure to include all information needed for the reference entry.

A calendar will be shared on Google later this week which indicates all major work for the remainder of the quarter. (Note: schedule may be changed by instructor at any time due to unforeseen circumstances.)

Please sign and have your parent/guardian sign below and return to class no later than Thursday, December 8.

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**Student and Parent/Guardian contract:**

I understand that I must complete and submit a research project in order to pass English 109. I will need to work in class on research and conduct research in a library and / or at home. I understand that if a research paper is not submitted, I will receive an F for a Davenport grade.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parents/Guardians:**

The students in English 109 will be working on a research project (in addition to other work) for the remainder of second quarter. We will be working in class, but students must also work at home and obtain research materials. I want you to be aware of the requirements of this project. Please visit my website: bowmanata.weebly.com for a calendar of work and due dates for the quarter. Please sign below to indicate your awareness of the requirements. Thank you.

Parents/Guardians: ­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

