***DEAD POETS SOCIETY*  TIMED WRITING**

**OVERARCHING QUESTION: How will the artists, writers, musicians, animators, directors, and storytellers affect and impact society through their respective crafts?**

In the movie, *Dead Poet’s Society,* Robin Williams tells his students, “We do not read and write poetry because its cute; we read and write poetry because we are members of the human race…and the human race is filled with passion… poetry, beauty, romance, love-these are what we stay alive for”.

**PART ONE: What does he mean by this? How do these intangible things define our existence?**

Later, he quotes a passage from Walt Whitman’s poem, “O Me, O Life”:

*O me! O life!... of the questions of these recurring; of the endless trains of the faithless... of cities filled with the foolish; what good amid these, O me, O life?' Answer. That you are here — that life exists, and identity; that the powerful play goes on and you may contribute a verse. That the powerful play goes on and you may contribute a verse.*

**PART TWO: Actually answer the question. What will your “verse” be? What contribution to life do you hope to make through your art?**

**ESSAY RUBRIC**

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|  | 10 | 8 | 6 | 4 |
| **MLA Format** | Paper follows all guidelines: double spaced, 10/12 pt Times New Roman, left aligned, slug, indented paragraphs | 1-2 errors | 3-4 errors | 5+ errors |
| **Grammar/**  **Punctuation** | Paper contains correct grammar, punctuation, and spelling | 1-2 errors | 3-4 errors | 5+ errors |
| **Structure** | Paper always contains multiple paragraphs with supporting details and appears cohesive | Paper mostly contains multiple paragraphs with supporting details and appears cohesive | Paper contains multiple paragraph, but subject matter does not flow smoothly; topic sentences may be absent | Paper is incoherent, does not contain multiple paragraphs, nonsensical |
| **Content** | Superbly addresses topic, celebrity talent or verse, and personal attribute including using specific supports | Superbly addresses topic, celebrity talent or verse, and personal attribute | Paper is missing vital information about celebrity impact or personal impact | Paper does not address the prompt |
| **Style** | Writer uses a variety of sentence structures, active voice, style devices, a professional tone, and grade-level vocabulary | Writer mostly uses a variety of sentence structures, active voice, style devices, and grade-level vocabulary | More sentence variety, colorful verbs, and professional tone examples are needed | Essay does not demonstrate critical thinking, varied structure or ideas supported with evidence |

OVERALL GRADE:\_\_\_\_\_/50