

## Guidelines for Gathering Big Question Artifacts

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Block \_\_\_\_\_

### Honors Assessment Project

One expectation of Honors English in Loudoun County is that students are capable of independent inquiry. As a LCPS student, you will gather materials outside of class that deal with your Big Question. This material should be chosen from the larger world of ideas and should reflect inquisitive spirit.

Below is a list of possible materials you could gather for your portfolio project. Please note: This list is NOT exhaustive. Work with your teacher to decide whether material not listed here is appropriate.

### Types of Artifacts and Sources

<b>Scholarly</b>	<b>Literary</b>	<b>Artistic/Personal</b>
References works like encyclopedias and dictionaries Major periodicals (newspapers, magazine, journals) Reliable websites (.edu, .gov, some .org sites)	Novels Poems Plays Television shows Movies Songs	Paintings Photographs Journal entries Conversations/interviews Blogs Podcasts Emails

You are encouraged to think broadly as you decide what to include in your portfolio, but your material must be up to a certain standard. The material you choose should be thought-provoking, and you should strive to find ideas expand and challenge your thinking, not simply reinforce it.

Your material should:

1. Cause you to think and reflect long after you have read/viewed/experienced the material. Why did the author write this? What did my mother mean when she said this? Why is the subject of that particular picture posed this way?
2. Deal with the subject of your Big Question in an interesting and unique way. In your material, you should notice something that you have not seen said or expressed so well about your Big Question. The piece should make you say, “that’s an interesting way of looking at the issue.”
3. Lead you to change, modify, even in a small way, your thinking about the subject. The material should lead you to say, “you know, I think I understand my Big Question a little better now.”

Please realize that this does not mean you have to agree with the material. Sometimes the things that make us form the strongest opinion about something are the things with which we most disagree.

As the teacher, I will make the final decision on material appropriateness. I will also work with you to figure out a way to include material that will not fit the standard folder. For example, video clips, sculptures, or entire books.

Remember the main idea of this individual inquiry project. You are making connections outside of the classroom curriculum to the larger world of ideas.