SYMBOLISM PROJECT

Aims:

1. Develop the students’ ability to form independent literary judgments and to support those ideas.
2. Develop the students’ powers of expression, both in oral and written communication

Purpose

To identify the significance of symbolism within Murakami short stories, analyze its purpose, and create a visual representation of said symbol that communicates this analysis.

Steps

1. Determine which symbol you wish to explore. You may use any symbol other than the one I tackled as the exemplar.
2. Create a thesis in which you assert what Murakami’s purpose in using this symbol within the larger work. (You may find a symbol that he uses in several of our texts.)
3. Create a visual representation of this symbol and its meaning. You may accomplish this feat using a variety of programs/apps. You can create a sculpture or another piece of 3-D art.
   1. Unless you are a savant in painting/drawing/illustration, do not show up with a messy drawing on a piece of poster board.
4. Write a 400-word analysis of this symbol. You may print it in the media center or in my room if you have a jump-drive.

How Will I Be Graded?

1. You will have two grades—one for the essay and one for the visual representation. These grades will be averaged together for a final grade in the Project category.

Visual Rubric

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| Your choice of symbol is apt. | 40% |
| Your visual conveyance of the symbol is appropriate in the context of the work(s). | 20% |
| Your color choices and font choices mirror the theme and tone of the work in which the symbol occurs. | 20% |
| The layout of your poster is sophisticated enough that you would not be embarrassed if I hung it on the windows outside with your name below. | 20% |

Written Rubric

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| The essay demonstrates detailed understanding and perceptive insight into the work. | 40% |
| There is insight of how the author uses symbolism to convey meaning. | 20% |
| The essay is effectively organized with well-integrated examples from the work. | 20% |
| The language used is consistently academic and the student demonstrates a high-level of accuracy in grammar and construction. | 20% |