Journals for Multicultural Literature

1. Many names have special meaning or history.

For example, the name Hannah means “favor” or “grace.”  The name Vito means “life.”

Write about your own name. Who named you? What does your name mean? Does it have a special ethnic or religious significance? Are you named after someone in your family? If you could change your name, would you? Why? Does your name fit your perceived identity?

1. Discuss the idea of the American Dream. How is it defined? Is it different for different people? Does everyone have the same opportunity to the same dream or does one’s opportunity depend on race, socioeconomic status, etc.?
2. Journal as a character from *A Raisin in the Sun*. You may choose Walter, Benetha, Mama, Travis, or Ruth. How do you feel about Walter losing the money? Has he destroyed your dream? If so, what is your dream and how did Walter losing the money affect that?
3. Apprentice PowerPoint
4. Do you have any skeletons in your closet? Have you ever done something in the past that you are unable to forgive yourself for? What happened? What would it take for you to forgive yourself? If not, do you know anyone that carries the emotion of guilt with them? How do they act? Finally, what do you think the word “redemption” means?
5. John Lennon once stated, “How you spend your days is how you spend your life.” Every thought in your head will ultimately turn into a choice and every choice, in turns evolves into action. Pretty much, every moment makes up who we are as individuals. If this is so, please reflect on your daily life: Have you ever stayed silent about an issue/conflict when you should have opened your mouth and stepped in? Have you ever witnessed a conflict and in your mind you knew it was wrong; however, you chose to stay out of it? Why? What are/were the repercussions of your choose to stay silent? Please leave out all names.
6. Crash Journal