Dante Presentation & Essay

**Part 1: Collaborative Presentation**

You and your partner will provide a 10 minute presentation to the class about your chosen canto/circle of Hell.

You will begin your presentation with a hook - an image, quote, video clip, or audio clip that captures your audience’s attention. If you choose an audio or video clip, it should be no more than 2 minutes. This should give a glimpse into the themes/content of your canto/circle.

After you provide this introductory piece. You’ll give the class a few minutes to write their responses to it and then to discuss it. You are not a part of this initial discussion.

Then you will tell the class about the sin which is being addressed in your portion of Inferno and proceed with your presentation. Your presentation should be mostly visual in the form of PowerPoint slides, Prezi, or other multimedia format. There should be very little text on these slides!

The following must be addressed in your presentation:

* What are the physical features of this part of the Inferno?
* What is the punishment for this sin?
* Are there any demons or beasts in this circle? Who/what are they?
* Are there any people that Dante the traveler recognizes or addresses? Who are they?
* How does Dante (and/or Virgil) react to what he sees and whom he meets here?
* What do you think that Dante the poet is saying about this sin, these people, or humankind in general?
* Is there anything else of interest that would add to your presentation?

The presentation should take 10 minutes (not including the time for the class to respond to and discuss the initial image or clip.)

You must cite any images, quotes, or clips that you use. This MLA works cited should be at the end of your presentation. Some interesting websites to consult which might be helpful to you are:

<http://www.worldofdante.org/>

Your presentation will be uploaded to Google Drive by the due date, regardless of your presentation date.

Rubric:

10 pts Your hook is relevant and interesting.

10 pts You and your partner work well together in presenting the material.

10 pts Your presentation is well-organized and flows from one point of information to another.

10 pts There is evidence of creativity in the choice of visual and auditory elements.

10 pts You have covered all of the relevant elements of your canto/circle.

10 pts Your MLA works cited page/slide is correctly formatted and complete.

**Part 2: Independent Essay**

The second part of this assignment is a short essay. There is no length requirement, but I suggest a length of around 500 words. You and your partner will each choose a different essay topic. You will work independently on this essay. The content of this essay is based upon your own interpretive skills, although certainly the knowledge that you gleaned from your preparation for the presentation will be considered as you write this. Any information that you used from outside sources should be cited in this essay, but I want this primarily to be your own work. The two possible topics of this essay are below. If you want to choose a different topic, please have it approved by me.

Option A:

How does Dante the traveler react to what and whom he sees in your canto/circle? Is there anything important about the way Dante the traveler and Virgil interact with one another? What do these things tell us about Dante the Traveler – his beliefs or his growth along this journey through Hell?

Option B:

How does Dante the poet describe the sin addressed in your canto/circle? What does that tell us about what the poet wants the reader to know or learn?

This essay is graded using the standard TMI writing rubric. It is worth 40 points. It should be emailed to me and submitted to turnitin by 7:00 am on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.