

Looking Back, Moving Forward

Name: _____ Date: _____ Hour: _____

Context

Our first collection of texts explores the notion of chasing success. The chapter excerpt we read in class, *A Walk to the Jetty*, introduces the reader to a young woman named Annie, who is about to leave home in order to begin a career in nursing. On her way to the jetty, Annie cannot help but to revisit a collection of childhood memories. Through this character, author Jamaica Kincaid shows the reader that a person must know who they were before becoming who they are going to be.

The college application essay assignment requires you to evaluate yourself – universities want to know who you are and what you are bringing to the table. Annie’s collection of childhood memories reveals details about her identity and she may use this self-awareness to help her achieve success (becoming a nurse).

Activity

In class today, you are going to write a song (or slam poem) that looks back at your childhood memories & reveals details about your identity.

Requirements

- **Time** – each group’s performance is between three or four minutes long.
- **Participation** – every member of the group must speak and share one memory.
- **Consistency** – the style of song (or slam poem) cannot vary from person to person; keep the same feel.

Looking Back, Moving Forward

Rubric					
Creativity – how creative the group was with the crew name, style of song/poem, word play.	1	2	3	4	5
Commitment – how committed each person is to their role, staying in character the entire time, not giggling or acting bored.	1	2	3	4	5
Respect – not talking when other groups are presenting, not laughing when other groups are presenting, song/poem is school appropriate.	1	2	3	4	5
Relevance – the song/poem explores the topic of “who I was” or “where I’ve been” or “where I’m going” within the central theme of chasing success”.	1	2	3	4	5