

I want you to, in your journal, write down three similarities between Luda and Annie in terms of where they come from, what they want to do to be success, what their vision of success is... Okay?

I wanted you to write down three similarities between Ludacris based on what we learned in the song. Like he grew up in a poor neighborhood. For him success meant finding safety in terms of health and finding financial safety. So think about that and compare to what we did yesterday with Annie... How she wanted to leave home and become a nurse. All that stuff.

Can I get eyes up here? Can someone please share out some of the similarities that we found.

Female student: Being successful was very important to them. They both came from rough areas so being successful meant for them becoming secure money-wise, both lost friends and both would do whatever it takes to become successful.

Male student: They both have dreams in terms of doing something better, as well has high goals and desires for success. And they both like females and they both lost childhood friends.

Okay, nice little furtive way to play that. Alright thank you. Okay so, as we've been going through this unit the central theme has been chasing success. And we saw that in the first reading Marita would chase success by working on her school work all day. And we know that Annie, in order to chase success, had to leave the safety and comfort of her home even though she was just about 17 years old and that's kind of a transitional and scary time. I know that a lot of you guys are probably 17 and next year you're probably going to be going out into the job force, military, university, (Oakland Community College)... Whatever the path is for you guys. This is about the time that you need to start thinking about who you want to be as adults. And we saw through Annie yesterday, and Ludacris today... Sometimes in order to know where you are going, you need to look back at where you've been. Haha yeah.

So today, just kind of use the Ludacris song as a little bit of a model... We are going to, as groups, write little songs about either where we've been, who we are right now, or where we want to go. Following the whole chasing success theme. Front two rows... I want you guys to turn around and face your partner. These two rows turn around. You're going to partner up.

Male student: We're always partners (it never fails).

You two groups are going to be partners, so you'll need to turn around...

When you guys perform I need you to come up and write down all the names, give me the rubric. As a group you're writing one song. You're a whole crew or team or whatever.

Students: Looking back or looking forward / So, I'm on the beat?

Okay, so in our groups we're either doing a song or a poem about who you are. What is your identity? Where have you been? Where are you going? How does it factor into your success? Guys! Every person should have a handful of lines. I am aiming for every performance to be about three minutes. I'll give you guys 25 minutes to a half an hour to work on it then we're going to perform. Remember that you are going to be graded on respectfulness, so be sure to be quiet when other groups are presenting. Don't talk, don't laugh. This is creative. This can be fun if you allow it to be. Also, please stay in your groups. I don't want you to outsource a feature to another group or something like that.

You can say that. You don't need to be from a dark place. It's just where you're from and where you're going. I mean... There is such a thing as poetic justice. (Female student confused noise). Ohhhhh. That's probably why you're confused.... Just write about you guys. Just write about where you're from or where you're going (Male student asking if he can lie). You can embellish. Yeah. Doesn't need to be sad. Write about it! It's just about you're path to success.

Female Student: I didn't read this.

You're team captain!