

## Gifted English 10

### My Human Condition Project

#### How the World Sees Me

##### Television Shows & Advertising

- View two of your favorite television shows and the advertisements targeted toward consumers during the shows.
- Write a synopsis of each show's plot (central issues, characters, conflict, resolution); also, explain what the show suggests about its target audience.
- Analyze the commercials during each show. What products are advertised? What rhetorical strategies do the advertisers use to appeal to their target audience?
- Comparing the shows and the advertisements, assess how the media perceives you as an American teenager.

##### News Reports

- Using reliable news sources (reputable news magazines and newspapers), locate two articles with teenagers as the subject.
- Create MLA citations for each article, and write a summary of the main points of the article. Explain what the article implies about teenagers.

##### Magazines & Advertising

- Choose two of your favorite magazines. Select one article and two advertisements from each magazine.
- Create MLA citations for each article, and write a summary of the main points of the article. Explain what each article implies about its target audience.
- Analyze the advertisements in the magazine. What products are advertised? What rhetorical strategies do the advertisers use to appeal to their target audience?
- Comparing the articles and the advertisements, assess how the media perceives you as an American teenager.

#### What I Show the World

##### Clothing & Physical Appearance

- Describe your clothing and physical appearance on a typical day. What do you think the way in which you present yourself to the world suggests about you? When do you change your appearance and for what purpose?

##### Behavior & Attitude

- Describe your behavior and attitude on a typical day. What do you think the way in which you present yourself to the world suggests about you? When do you change your behavior/attitude and for what purpose?

##### Material Possessions

- Describe the material possessions you carry with you on a typical day. What do you think these possessions suggest about you and your values/concerns?

##### Activities & Interests

- Describe the activities and interests in which you participate regularly. What do you think the way in which you present yourself to the world suggests about you? When do you alter your activities and for what purpose?

##### Interviews

- Interview two people who know you well: an adult and a teenager. Ask them to put aside their personal affection for you and honestly answer your questions about how you present yourself to the world and what assumptions others are likely to make about you based on your life choices. Create a transcript of the questions you asked and summarize each person's answers. Design your questions with the goal of seeking truth.

##### Collage

- Create a collage that depicts the various ways that you reveal yourself to the world. Then, write an analysis of your collage, explaining the consistencies and disparities between what you actually show the world and what you want to show to the world.

#### Who I Truly Am

##### Beliefs (not religious)

- Read three essays from NPR's *This I Believe*. For each, state the central thesis, analyze the rhetorical strategies that the author uses, describe how the author creates his or her personal voice, and explain how the author's beliefs compare to or conflict with your own. Then, write your own essay, following the parameters of *This I Believe*, one that we will submit to NPR.

##### Values

- What do you value most? Compose an essay in which you describe what is most important to you and why. How is what you most value reflected in your life choices (clothing, appearance, behavior, possessions, activities, etc.)? If your daily life doesn't clearly parallel your values, how might you change so that what is important to you is clearly displayed throughout life?

##### Social Concerns

- What do you believe are the greatest problems that are facing the world now and will in the future? Make a list of five such problems, explaining why you believe each has or will have an incredibly negative effect on the world. Then, choose one to analyze in depth. Explain causes and effects; hypothesize two solutions; and describe what you can individually do now to counteract this problem.