The American Dream Unit Paper  
English III Honors  
Livingston

All papers must

1. Adequately answer the prompt posed using at least four of the following sources from the American Dream unit.
   1. *The American Dream* by Cullen\*\*
   2. *The Great Gatsby* by Fitzgerald\*\*
   3. “Hollywood Dreams of Wealth, Youth, and Beauty” by Mondello
   4. From *Democracy in America* by de Tocqueville
   5. “Fallacy of Success” by Chesterton
   6. “I Hear America Singing” by Walt Whitman
   7. “A Quilt of a Country” by Newsweek Staff

\*\*REQUIRED to use as a source in your paper

1. Use MLA formatting and guidelines
2. Include a correctly formatted Works Cited Page
3. Include in-text citations
4. Integrate a minimum of 2 different sources in each paragraph
5. Include a variety of syntax and grade-appropriate writing
6. Use the chunk method of paragraph writing to ensure proper commentary, evidence, topic/conclusion sentences, etc.
7. Include a strong thesis statement and coherent introductory/conclusion paragraphs
8. Be submitted both physically and digitally. Failure to submit a hard copy AND a digital copy on or before due date will result in a 25 point deduction. All digital copies will be run through one of three plagiarism checkers.
9. Include 2.5-4 pages of context (approximately 1,000-1500 words)

**Option 1: How do the various texts in the unit treat the topic of the American Dream as described by Cullen?**

To answer this question:

* Summarize the American Dream as described by Cullen and determine two central ideas Cullen develops in *The American Dream*​.
* Review the various texts read in the unit.
* Select at least three texts that agree with, elaborate on, or challenge the central ideas presented by Cullen.
* Compare and contrast Cullen’s ideas of the American Dream to the ideas presented in the selected texts.

Write an explanatory essay in response to the question that conveys complex ideas clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of the various texts. Be sure use proper grammar, conventions, spelling, and grade-appropriate words and phrases. Cite and integrate several pieces of strong and thorough textual evidence while maintaining the flow of ideas.

**Option 2: Write a research-based essay making a claim about how attainable you believe the American dream to be.**

You should support your argument with examples and counterexamples from the literature read throughout the unit.

* When writing the essay, integrate information into the text selectively to maintain the flow of ideas, while avoiding plagiarism and overreliance on any one source. Use MLA standard format for citation. To strengthen your writing, use any relevant notes you compiled throughout the unit.
* Once you have compiled your evidence, develop a specific thesis statement.

Paper is a MASTERY GRADE due on or before:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_