AP English 11 Seminar

Literary Selection: Self-Reliance by Ralph Waldo Emerson

Topics for discussion:

- 1. Envy is ignorance
- 2. Self-acceptance of who we are is critical, as is acceptance of our "lot" in life
- 3. We must work for everything of value; life is abundant, but will give us nothing "for free"
- 4. We don't know what we can do until we try
- 5. Society is in conspiracy against the manhood [personhood] of its members
- 6. Whosoever would be a man [person] must be a non-conformist. Imitation is suicide.
- 7. With consistency, a great soul has simply nothing to do...
- 8. Pythagoras, Socrates, Jesus, Luther, Copernicus, Galileo, Newton were misunderstood...to be great is to be misunderstood.

Keep these things in mind as we prepare to view "An Enemy of the People" and do the attendant work.



Assessment:

Are you attentive to others' comments?

Are you polite and wait for facilitator to recognize you?

Are you a participant in speaking and sharing your thoughts?

- A = Spoke 5 or more times, listened well, followed procedure.
- B = Spoke 1 4 times, listened well, followed procedure
- C = Did not speak, listened well, followed procedure
- D = Did not speak, did not listen well, disruptive
- F = Probably sitting in time-out at the moment! ©