**American Literature B – Social Themes in Literature and Informational Texts**

 Social themes in literature focus on the concerns of a particular group of people. The concerns of these groups generally relate to a specific time and place in history. By illuminating the issues for discussion, literature becomes a powerful tool for social change. As we progress through this project, examine how social issues in literature help create a social dialogue to improve the conditions of social justice in our society.

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| Part | Task and Sources | Product |
| A | **Synthesis Essay** 3-5 page essay examining the challenges facing women at the turn of the 20th century. Choose a variety from the following sources:* “The Story of an Hour” by Kate Chopin
* “The Yellow Wallpaper” by Charlotte Perkins Gilman
* “A Pair of Silk Stockings” by Kate Chopin
* “If I Were a Man” by Charlotte Perkins Gilman
* “A Jury of Her Peers” by Susan Glaspell
* “April Showers” by Edith Wharton
* Suffragette images and news footage
* Newspaper article “Destroying Beauty” April 1896
* *Iron Jawed Angels* – film
* “Bad Romance”: Women’s Suffrage <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IYQhRCs9IHM>
* “Rest Cure” by Tricia Ellis-Christensen
 | * Textual Evidence with MLA citations for each source (summative)
* Informational Essay (summative)
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| B | **Argumentative Essay** – Using one of the following early 20th century social issues, write an editorial essay for a newspaper or letter to a Congressman that expresses your ideas about how this issue should be handled in the early 20th American society. * Racial prejudice
* Religious prejudice
* Economic hardship
* Unfair working conditions
* Gender inequality
* Cultural prejudice
 | * Textual Evidence with MLA citations for each source of the chosen social issue (minimum three) (summative)
* Editorial Letter (Essay) (summative)
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| C | **Glogster** or other digital presentation – create a digital promotion of equal rights for your chosen social issue group above. Website: Cool Tools for Schools | * formative
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| D | **Presentation** – **Digital and** **speaking**  | * formative
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| E | **Reflection Essay** – 250 words | * formative
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