Biography Assignment/British Authors  Grade 12 AP English  Ms. Petrosinelli

Common Core Standards: RI-11-12.1, W-11-12.1.2, SL.11-12.1-3
21st Century skills: Communicate clearly; Access information, Apply technology
The due dates for notes and the presentation will be assigned in class.

The first book that you will read of your choice will be a biography of a British poet. I am
asking you to read a biography because the reading that you do will provide you with some
background information for the author whose works you will use to write your research paper.
The Cranston High School East library and databases have a great deal of sources available for
your research. The assignment includes the following steps:

1. Select the **British** poet of your choice.
2. Read information from at least **hard copy or online texts** about the writer. Please use only the
   school's academic databases for your research.
3. Keep track of your reading by creating notes on what you’ve read (including citations), or
   highlight the information on the article pages that you are using.
4. Use your notes to create a formal, **TWO-PAGE** outline of significant personal and
   professional events in the person’s life. The outline should include:
   - Family background
   - Significant/influential social events occurring in the writer’s early life
   - His/her pathway to a writing career
   - Mentors/ significant people in writer’s life
   - How he/she came to be published/ how fame was handled by the writer
   - Themes in his/her writing
   - Significant personal events as an adult
   - Author’s impact on his/her contemporary society (if any)
   - Citation information (Author, page #)
5. Create an **MLA Works Cited** page for the three sources used.
6. EXTRA CREDIT…Any student wishing to do so, may also dress like the person he or
   she has researched. (School appropriate attire, of course!)
   Students can come for extra help or rehearsal at any time during the assignment.

Grading…Notes taken for project : Graded twice during research (learning activities)
   Outline/Works Cited: Total of 2 grades (classroom assessments)
   Presentation: Total of 2 grades for the presentation (classroom assessments)