

Rising Freshmen  
Summer Reading 2017  
Nazareth Regional High School

**Text:** The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie  
**Assignments:** Essay and a visual project

**Essay Prompt:**

Consider the title of the book, The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian, and write an essay in which you examine Junior's struggle for identity. In what ways does his identity change once he attends the white high school? In what ways does he maintain his sense of identity? How important is his sense of identity? Support your argument using specific examples from the novel.

The essay must be at least 5 paragraphs and it must include evidence (quotes) from the text.

**Visual Project:**

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian is a bildungsroman- a novel that traces the development of its hero from infancy into adulthood or, more simply put, the story of a person growing up. Your assignment (in addition to the essay) is to construct a visual representation of your own personal story so far. Just like the novel, you need to combine words and images on a poster board or a tri-fold poster board. Please have at least 6 images that you drew yourself, and for each image give an explanation (3-6 sentences) that details your journey into whom you are today. You are not going to be graded on your artistic abilities, but effort, as always, counts for a lot.