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[Insert Play Title Here] COLLAGE Assignment

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CUNY Kingsborough Community College

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THA 51 – Play Analysis PROF. THOMAS L. ROTHACKER

[Insert Play title here] COLLAGE assignment

Approaching analysis of Dramatic Literature can easily be accomplished via class discussion and through writing. Since plays are “written to be performed”, other approaches of analysis must be explored. The collage assignment and synthesis focuses on the visual aspects of the writing and how the playwright offers clues as to what can or should be focused on.

A COLLAGE is defined as “a technique of composing a work of art by pasting on a single surface various materials not normally associated with one another, as newspaper clippings, parts of photographs...”

As we have read and analyzed *[insert title of play here]* in class, we have tuned into the visuals (and audibles) that jump off the page. Having a deep significance in the storytelling, *[insert Playwright]* is very clear as to how the stage/space should be filled with these objects/images.

THE ASSIGNMENT, Part I:

- 1) On a piece of 8 ½ x 11” piece of paper OR LARGER (can be a poster), you will create a collage, BASED OFF your impressions, interpretations and gut reactions to *[insert title of play here]*. It can be done digitally or by hand. Any and all materials are welcome.
- 2) A MINIMUM of 10 images/items is required for this project. You DON'T have to go the literal route with this. By literal, I mean that just because the image/item of a “bald head” appears in the script, doesn't mean you have to include a picture of a bald head. Go further in your thinking and creativeness. What metaphors can be used in trying to articulate this play? Song lyrics? A specific piece of art?
- 3) Before even collecting images, go back through the script. Skim and highlight the things that resonate with you. In so many of the descriptive speeches the characters have, a lot can be taken from that that can lead you to an interesting mixture of images.

- 4) As a final synthesis of this collage, please type a 2-page, minimum (double-spaced, 12 pt. font, proofread) essay speaking about your work. Why these images? How do they relate to the play? How do you see them in conjunction with this work? Why? I am looking for strong articulation here and HOW this all comes together. It is like you telling the story through your own images and words.

This collage assignment will only deepen your understanding of this groundbreaking abstract work. Will you still be confused by some aspects of this work? YES! AND THAT'S OK...The more we wrestle with it and interrogate the script, the more we learn.

UPLOAD to Bboard:

- 1) If you composed your images/collage digitally, then make sure the file is labeled and upload it along with your supporting essay.
- 2) If you designed your collage by hand (paint/ink/any other materials), please upload a close and clear picture of it along with your essay.

THE ASSIGNMENT, Part II:

- 1) The class following the submissions to Blackboard, each student will speak for a minimum of 5 minutes about their work.
- 2) This is an “informal” presentation where each will go through their images/representations and speak about the inspirations and how decisions were made for each.
- 3) While no formal “speech” has to be prepared, each student must articulate clearly and be open to discussion from the class.

Here is a rubric of how you will be evaluated and graded for this assignment:

	Minimum 10 images / representations	Created in the collage-style	Synthesis / Reflection Essay requirements	Presentation of Collage & Discussion
“A” range	Produced the minimum 10 images/representations	Creatively presented the images in a collage	Met the essay requirements in synthesizing work.	Confidentially and well prepared in presenting work and engaging in discussion
“B” range	Missing 1 image/representation	Creatively, but “basically” presented the images in a collage	Met the essay requirements, but limited description of synthesis	Confidentially and well prepared in presenting work but hesitant on discussion
“C” range	Missing 2 image/representation	No effort was put into collage	Did not meet essay requirements regarding length or detail	Not very prepared to discuss work or be asked questions
“D” range	Missing 3 or more images/representations	Images thrown together and no effort put into collage	Did not meet essay requirements regarding length or detail	Not prepared to discuss work or absent
F	Only includes a couple images/representations	No collage, but rather random images	No essay turned in	Not prepared to discuss work or absent

