

# What's My Lens? This I Believe

## 11th Grade ELA: Project - On Demand Writing

This fall, you have been investigating your lens- now it's time to consider your beliefs. What do you believe? Why? What experiences and understandings have led you to those beliefs? We are all going to begin the unit together and then you will be working asynchronously (not all at the same place at the same time). In the end, each of you will submit our essays to NPR.org to be published! MOST of the work will be done in school. Your homework is to continue reading and tracking your pages on goodreads.com. I'll let you know when it's time to write a commentary analysis of the book you're reading.

To be successful, you will need to complete the following tasks...this is a suggested order. Your process is YOUR process! All the tasks are on my website, as usual!

- TASK 1: Visit my website This I Believe page for materials...www.christykingham.com
- TASK 2: Read This I Believe essays (many!) to get a feel for the possibilities
- TASK 3: Review The format of This I Believe
- TASK 4: Complete at least ONE brainstorm from my website
- TASK 5: Write at least ONE draft or Outline
- TASK 6: Participate in a peer feedback session
  
- TASK 7: Write an essay in one period! Wednesday, October 5th

### HINTS:

1. **It's all about you** - Write about you and your thoughts. Tell us your story in the first person, and try to avoid sentences like "We feel this way."
2. **Keep it personal** - Don't try to use words or phrases you wouldn't normally say. Remember, if you wouldn't be comfortable saying the words out loud, it is too formal.
3. **Timing is everything** - Make sure that you read your finished essay out loud. It shouldn't be more than three minutes long (500 words!) when read at a normal speaking rate.
- do 4. **Say what you don't believe**, not what you **do** believe - Write about what you think, but not at the expense of others. Keep the focus on you, and what you believe, not what you disagree with.
5. **Have fun!** How many times are you allowed to be 100% free with your choice of topic, and what you want to say about it? This is your chance to write about your personal philosophy of life, so don't be shy—let it out!



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Being "On pace" is a suggestion to help you plan your time!

		Intro to the project/rubric...  Study the genre and/or brainstorm	Complete one of my brainstorming or drafting prompts from the website	Write an outline or a Messy Draft
No School	No School	Wednesday 10/5		
READ! Update pages!	READ! Update Pages!	In-Class This I Believe Essay		

