**Performance Task Unit 2: The Art of Compromise**

**Task Overview:**

We see and hear the headlines all too often. Left versus Right. Liberal versus Conservative. Republican versus Democrat. We’ve become a divided country. Our political system (and politicians) used to be about finding the middle ground, but we have lost this desire. We’ve adopted a “my way or the highway” mentality. How can we re-learn the art of compromise? How do we show others how to find and fight for the hard center?

Your task is to read a pro/con article and track the effectiveness and credibility of each presented argument (both the pro and con). Articles can be found on the Weebly.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**Phase 1, Days 1 and 2:**

1.**CHOOSE**- …a Pro/Con article to work with.

2.**CURATE**- Analyze the article, discerning logical fallacies or faulty reasoning from the facts. You should print a hard copy of the article and annotate the article thoroughly. Take detailed notes, tracking BOTH sides of the argument. Mark claims made on both sides. Mark evidence given to support the claims made. You should mark counter-arguments that are made and note if a rebuttal is offered. Are there any appeals use and what is their purpose?

**QUIZ GRADE #1: CREATE a poster that represents each side of the argument.**

**(GROUP COLLABORATION)**

**Phase 2, Day 3:**

3.**CONDUCT-** …a search and find out more information on your topic. Keep track of source information to use for citations.

4.**CARE FOR**- Put all the pieces together to find a middle ground by making sure you give each side of the topic equal time, even though you may have a pull to one side. Take care to look at each side equally.

**Phase 3, Day 4: (December 11th)**

5.**CRUSADE FOR COMPROMISE-** As a group, discuss possible compromises that could be made by each side.

**QUIZ GRADE #2: Create a list of possible ways to compromise. Use Google Docs.**

**(1 list per group member)**

**Phase 4, Days 5 and 6: (December 13th and 14th)**

6.**COMMUNICATE-**  This is the final phase of your performance task. Each student will write a paragraph **explaining a concession each side could made in order to reach a middle ground**. **Your paragraph should:** argue a compromised position, provide a clear claim, include evidence of your research and provide citations when needed, and a convincing conclusion.

**QUIZ GRADE #3:** **Concession paragraph typed in a Google Doc with an MLA heading.**

Include this for your title:

A Compromise for “Pro/Con: \_\_\_(Your Article Title)\_\_\_”