**Freshmen Archives**  Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Assignment Overview

In our discussion of Elizabeth McCracken’s essay “Desiderata,” we have spoken about how we remember events in our own lives and how we learn about and remember other family members. Each of us has had some interesting experiences in our lives, and as it is still early in your high school career, this is a perfect time to reflect on those experiences.

Over the next few days, you will create your own archive. As you compile the items you would like to include in the archive, remember the types of items McCracken discussed. You might want to include letters, pictures, keepsakes, or images that symbolize a memory or event. Some of these items may be the real piece, or you may choose to create replicas or symbols which will serve as representation (you DO NOT have to bring in anything precious that might get damaged or lost).

Your archive must have **three** levels: personal, family, and public. The **personal** level should include **3** images or symbols of your own personal experiences, likes or dislikes, etc. The **family** level should include stories, images, or symbols of such about family members other than yourself; this level can include immediate and extended family members. The **public** level should include images or symbols of experiences at school or in other “public” realms; you might also want to include events that have happened in our country which have political or historical significance to you.

You may put together your archive in the way you believe will work best. I would recommend a shoebox which can easily be divided into three sections for each required level. You could also use a gift box or a shadow box. The levels can be represented beside each other or build on each other.

After you have created your archive, you will also need to write an expository essay which clarifies the pieces placed within each level. Your written explanation should explain the significance of the pieces or the symbolism represented by them. This explanation should also include why you chose to present the levels in the way you did; for example, if your levels build on each other, explain why.

We will only use a small amount of time in class to work on these archives; therefore, you **MUST** spend time working on it at home. The archives will count for 2 project grades, one for the physical archive and one for the expository essay. Please be sure to take your time to create a nice project and a strong essay as these grades will be a great way to get off to a wonderful start in this class!

**Your archive & essay will be due on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**RUBRICS:**

***Physical Archive:*** Presentation – 15 pts.

Creativity – 15

3 levels included – 30

3 items per level – 30

Neatness – 5

Name & on-time – 5

Total – 100

***Essay:***  Focus – 20

Organization – 20

Item explanations – 30

Layout explanation – 20

Conventions – 10

Total – 100

\*\*\* 10 points will be deducted for each day the project is late.