

## **Group Island Symbolic Identity Speech**

### ***Negotiating Symbols to Create a Group Identity***

Assignment: Before we study other cultures we need to reflect on our culture and how our personal identity was formed. Students will work together to form the language, rules and rituals of their own island. The island must incorporate symbols from each of the members. Students will first reflect and investigate personal symbols that represent their unique cultural existence. Students will then come together to negotiate how they will run their island. Together they must name their island, create a unifying flag with symbols and colors that represent the founders of the island (the group members). After the duties of governance for the island are negotiated each member will create a 2 to 4 minute presentation that will explicate their cultural background and how it was incorporated into the island culture. To prepare for this presentation students will present a personal coat of arms to the class. The coat of arms will become the possible symbols for the group flag. Consider all of the areas of identity that we have and will cover in class. (ethnicity, age, gender, physical abilities, religion, sexual orientation, social affiliations and others) Research areas of your cultural background in order to give context to the rituals, foods, and symbols that are important to you. Then as a group think about your island and the rules, language, maybe a motto, and rituals that will be specific to your island. Your group members are the founders of the island, each could play a role (e.g. Mayor, President, Queen, Historian, Rock Star, or even the local Celebrity – get creative). Pretend you are designing a country of all of your symbols and beliefs, and then design your flag to represent the important elements in your country. Be creative but thoughtful.

#### **Graded criteria:**

##### **Outline**

- Outline must be in the format shown in class
- Three main points (1. Your role on the island which must include your duties, 2. Verbal and nonverbal elements from your island, 3. Rituals AND your symbol must be mentioned in one of the three main points)
- Typed in acceptable font
- Two pages minimum, four pages maximum

##### **Reference Page**

- Three sources cited in APA format.
- One of the sources MUST come from one of the Academic data bases accessed through the library online sources.

##### **Visual aid – Flag**

- Design a flag that represents the Island
- Flag must brought to class, NOT in digital format
- Words optional (no more than 3 words allowed)
- Colors and images chosen in a meaningful way (flag should incorporate elements from the group members coat of arms presented in class)

##### **Presentation**

- Each person must speak for 2 to 4 minutes
- Speeches should be clearly presented and follow structure/format given
- Verbally cite sources
- Flag – creativity, use of symbols to represent each member apparent