Identity, Privilege, and Inequalities Writing Prompts

4-5 pages + a works cited page (not included in page count). Turned in to CANVAS. If it’s not there by the deadline, no credit will be given. Use minimum of 6 sources from the class. Feel free to cite articles that are relevant but weren’t from the class. Take pictures of your readings you use for this paper so that I can see your marked texts or journals. Submit with paper. THIS IS NOT AN OPINION PAPER. Synthesize the readings/videos from the unit into a holistic argument. Personal stories don’t belong in this paper.

\*Pick a quote from p. 345 to begin your essay, and refer back to it in your paper. Also feel free to use data on pgs. 350-351.

1. Identity: Pick 2-3 groups who struggle with a sense of identity both historically and today. What do the readings show are the importance of having a sense of identity, and what are the ways in which oppressors deny people a sense of self and community? What has been overcome/what progress has been made?
2. Privilege & Inequalities: Why is it important to recognize one’s own privilege in order to avoid what David Foster Wallace calls the “default setting?” How does one group’s privilege affect another’s inequalities or sense of identity? History can be categorized as the struggle to cease being “the other.” What “others” have been overcome, and which groups are still perceived as “the other” today?
3. Invisibility: Of the groups discussed in this unit, which do you think have the least voice and power in the ever-present debate about identity, privilege and inequalities? Pick 2 or 3 that you think are important for us to hear about their struggles and victories and on-going battles in pursuit of the dream of identity and equality, but who aren’t often given attention in education or pop culture.