Protest Song Project

1. Choose a significant non-fiction article which profiles a civil rights issue or an issue of discrimination.
2. Once you make a choice, number the paragraphs in your article.
3. Preview the title, subtitles, images, and graphs/charts.
4. Begin reading your article, annotating for main ideas, important details, and significant explanations.
5. Next, skim through your annotations and think about what claim you may want to create based on your annotations.
6. Now, using the information from your article, begin to think of a chorus or refrain which sums up the struggle (this will likely be your main claim). Refine and revise until you have a chorus which is catchy and strong.
7. Begin to draft your song/poem using important details from the article. Be sure to also add lines which explain your details and support your claim statement (in your chorus/refrain). If you are writing a song, you can write your own musical background or use a karaoke version of a song you like. You don't need to be musically gifted to write a song, just be willing to have some type of beat/melody in the background (even if it is just a bongo drum, tambourine, or harmonica).
8. Minimum requirements for protest song/poem:
   - Must be at least 20-25 lines long
   - Must have a title
   - Must have a chorus or refrain
   - Must include at least five examples of elements from your literary elements squares (simile, metaphor, personification, parallel structure, imagery etc.)
   - Must have an identifiable claim, supporting evidence, and commentary
   - Must address a societal issue of inequity or discrimination
9. Revise for syntax (flow), diction, and conventions.
10. Type using a standard 12 point font (Don't forget your heading!)
11. Prepare for performance in class by rehearsing at least 8-10 times.

Rubric for Protest Song/Poem

Song/Poem:
- **Title and Minimum Length (20-25 lines)** ____/10 points
- **Quality of Chorus or Refrain** ____/10 points
- **Quality/Expression of Lyrics** ____/15 points
- **Labeled Literary Devices** (Five at 3 points each) ____/15 points
- **Labeled Claim, Evidence, and Commentary** ____/ 9 points
- **Addresses an Important Societal Issue** ____/10 points
- **Performance Quality** ____/21 points

Total ____/90 points