A graphic essay is a visual that uses words, color, and other visual representations (like symbolism) to make a unified statement. You will complete your graphic essay individually.

You want to ensure the pieces of your graphic essay all work towards proving the thesis you choose; your thesis must reflect how Among the Hidden represents three different principles of an all too powerful government. In other words, you are focusing on showing how each of your three selected themes/big ideas from the novel relate to a government that has too much power.

The goal of this graphic essay is to help you to synthesize and organize details and ideas from the novel, while allowing you to practice with the elaboration and comprehension strategies (signposts) you have been introduced to. The primary purpose of the graphic essay is to help you THINK, ORGANIZE, and INTEGRATE your thoughts, not to produce a fancy art product with no context.

REQUIREMENTS:
1. Your graphic essay includes an effective thesis statement identifying your three chosen themes/big ideas that represent an all too powerful government in the novel Among the Hidden.
2. Your graphic essay uses color in a rational way; color can be used symbolically and/or as an organizational device.
3. Your graphic essay uses a unifying symbol or symbols. Symbols arise naturally from the literature and connect to the themes/big ideas identified as part of your overall thesis.
4. Your graphic essay is organized in such a way that the viewer can easily see the following:
   - unifying title,
   - three themes/big ideas,
   - two major examples that support each theme/big idea,
   - two relevant quotations (clearly cited) that support each theme/big idea, and
   - a minimum of two tell-me-more sentences that support each example.
   - Appropriate transitions must be used.
5. Your graphic essay needs to be large enough to be visible from a distance, neat, and thorough in content. You will not be able to explain your graphic essay to the class, so make sure the written work clearly explains all the connections and symbolism you intend.

TIMELINE:
- **November 6 – 16**: Read and annotate/sticky note novel. Follow the steps for success to help you organize your ideas. Have everything planned before you leave for Thanksgiving break.
- **November 26-30**: Create your graphic essay poster.
- **December 4th**: Due.

Project Points: approximately 70 points (two test grades)
STEPS FOR SUCCESS FOR YOUR GRAPHIC ESSAY:

1. Read and annotate/sticky note the novel for signposts and big ideas. Pay attention to big ideas that become “again and again’s.” These ideas are probably more important and might become one of your three themes/big ideas for your project. Also, pay attention to ideas that could be symbolic. How could you represent them in your graphic essay?

2. Decide what themes/big ideas you will show through your graphic essay. What textual evidence (quotations) will you use to support your ideas? Make sure you note the page number/s for each.

3. Decide what your unifying symbol(s) or image(s) will be that relate to the novel and/or your themes/big ideas.

   Remember – you should represent this information in a creative and artistic way.