Summer Viewing and Nonfiction Reading Assignment: **Option 2**

**Viewing:** Watch both short documentaries listed below. The links for each video are provided. Additionally, the links can be found on the LMC page under the English 11 Summer reading tab. After watching the documentaries, complete a viewing guide for both documentaries. You may need to look up additional information!

**Op-Doc 1: “From Aleppo to L.A.” (The New York Times):** In this short documentary, a Syrian girl escapes the war and moves to Los Angeles with her mother. The film highlights their transition as they struggle to adjust to a new culture and the loss of their former home. [Click here for “From Aleppo to L.A.” Op-Doc](#)

**Op-Doc 2: “Policing Flint” (The New York Times):** In this short documentary, filmmakers go inside a police force struggling with budget cuts and public distrust. [Click here for “Policing Flint” Op-Doc](#)

After viewing both short documentaries, complete a viewing guide for both documentaries.

**Viewing Guides**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Documentary:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Authors and Audiences:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Authorship</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Who made this film? What do I need to know about the filmmaker(s) to analyze this film?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What central questions is the film trying to answer?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| What does the filmmaker want people to know or remember? |
Who is the target audience?

**Impact**
Who might benefit from the messages in this film? Who might be harmed or disadvantaged by them?

What have I learned from this film? Why might the film’s message(s) matter to me?

**Response**
What kinds of actions might I take in response to this film?

**Message and Meaning**

**Content**
What is this film about (and what makes you think that)?

What ideas, values and information are overt? Implied?

Who are the voices of authority in this film? Are there voices left out that would add important perspectives?
Techniques
What techniques does the filmmaker use to communicate essential ideas?

How do those techniques communicate the intended message(s)?

Interpretations
How might others see this film in a way that differs from the way I see it? How and why might different types of people interpret this film in divergent ways?

What is my reaction to this film and what do I learn about myself from my reaction or interpretation?

Representations and Reality
Context
When was this film made? Since then, has anything occurred that is relevant to the claims or focus of the film?
Where or how has this film been distributed (shared with the public)?

Credibility
Which of the film’s assertions are facts and which are opinions?

What sources does the film rely on for its information, ideas or assertions? Are those sources credible? How do you know?

Name of Documentary:

Authors and Audiences:
Authorship
Who made this film? What do I need to know about the filmmaker(s) to analyze this film?

Purpose
What central questions is the film trying to answer?
What does the filmmaker want people to know or remember?

Who is the target audience?

**Impact**
Who might benefit from the messages in this film? Who might be harmed or disadvantaged by them?

What have I learned from this film? Why might the film’s message(s) matter to me?

Response
What kinds of actions might I take in response to this film?

**Message and Meaning**

Content
What is this film about (and what makes you think that)?
What ideas, values and information are overt? Implied?

Who are the voices of authority in this film? Are there voices left out that would add important perspectives?

**Techniques**
What techniques does the filmmaker use to communicate essential ideas?

How do those techniques communicate the intended message(s)?

**Interpretations**
How might others see this film in a way that differs from the way I see it? How and why might different types of people interpret this film in divergent ways?
What is my reaction to this film and what do I learn about myself from my reaction or interpretation?

**Representations and Reality**

**Context**
When was this film made? Since then, has anything occurred that is relevant to the claims or focus of the film?

Where or how has this film been distributed (shared with the public)?

**Credibility**
Which of the film’s assertions are facts and which are opinions?

What sources does the film rely on for its information, ideas or assertions? Are those sources credible? How do you know?
Nonfiction Reading: Read both of the articles listed below and answer questions provided.

A Syrian Refugee Story: Time.com profiles Faez Al Sharaa, a father of two who has made a long journey from Daraa, Syria to Dallas, Texas. This story focuses on both the journey of resettlement and the relocation and cultural adaptation process.

What is the central idea of the article?

What information do we learn about the Syrian Refugee crisis as a whole?

What elements of Sharaa’s story are included here that we did not see in in the op-doc?

The author of this article chooses to include information about how Americans feel about accepting refugees? Why do you think the author chose to include this information?

What is Sharaa’s life like now that he lives and works in the U.S.?

What information did you find surprising about Sharaa’s experiences?

What questions do you still have about Sharaa’s experience or the refugee crisis as a whole?
Inside a Broken Police Department: Photographer Zackary Canepari spent two years with the Flint Police Department. This article focuses on his experiences and includes the powerful images he collected. Detroit journalist Charlie LeDuff writes alongside the photos.

What information do we get about Flint in this article and in these photographs that we did not get in the Op-Doc?

Does this article and this series of photographs give us a different portrait of Flint? How so?

Choose one photograph to analyze closely. What do you notice? What did you find interesting about the photo? What point do you think the photo is trying to make?

What pattern occurs from picture to picture?

What questions do you have about the city of Flint or the Flint police department now that you have watched the Op-Doc and read the article?