

**WHO LIVES?
WHO DIES?
WHO TELLS YOUR
STORY?**

HAMILTON BY LIN MANUEL MIRANDA



TRUE CONFESSIONS

ONLY YOU CAN DECIDE WHAT IS TRUTH AND WHAT IS MIRAGE.

DIRECTIONS. SO TRADITIONAL. BUT SO NECESSARY.

You will receive the name of a literary and/or historical figure that is in some way associated with the reading assignments in this course. Then, you will take it upon yourself to research more about this person. You should pay attention to when and where this individual was alive- the time frame and the cultural customs/expectations of that time and place, their beliefs, their background, their interests, their style, etc. Then, you will act as if you are that person. Be as creative as you would like to be. Next, you will have a little speed dating session with others in the class. Your goal is to try to learn as much about the others during the speed dating sessions... and to show them enough of yourself so that they can get to know you. Lastly, you will receive two envelopes. In each envelope, there will be two blank notecards. You will write one lie about your individual's life on one card, and one truth about your individual's life on the other. Then, your partner(s) will select one of the two envelopes (just one). Regardless of whether or not the selected envelope holds a truth or a lie, you'll have to try and "sell" the content of that envelope as if it were true (even if it's not) in 60 seconds. Partners can ask questions and interrogate the validity of the content. After the 60 seconds is up, your partners have to guess whether- based on their limited speed dating interaction and interrogation session with you- or not the information regarding your person is true or false.

1

Step One: Select or receive assigned literary or historical figure.

2

Step Two: Research biographies, autobiographies, and what this individual wrote and published.

3

Step Three: Present your acting skills- adopt the persona of this individual... and prepare for some speed dating to get to know other people.

4

Step Four: Write down one lie and one truth regarding your individual's life and place them in the envelopes.

5

Step Five: Partners will select one of the envelopes. Now, try and persuade your audience in 60 seconds that the content in that envelope is true (even if it isn't.)

6

Step Six: Partners- decipher whether or not the individual is lying based on what you already know about that person- from the speed dating chats.

FIND THEIR STORY

CHARACTER ANALYSIS MEETS REAL-LIFE PEOPLE.

DIRECTIONS. SO CLICHE. BUT SO NECESSARY.

Do your research. Find biographies, autobiographies, articles, essays, things this person wrote. You are basically conducting a character study of someone that really existed or maybe still does. How do you think you person spoke/speaks? What were/are their interests? How would/do they dress? What kinds of questions would/do they ask? What would/are their personality quirks be? What would have been/is current news at that/the time? What were/are they writing? What had/have they written? What social movement did/do they support? What is their relationship history? Did they live a good life? Was their life tragic? How did they die? What is their legacy? How will you tell their story. Remember: the goal is to try to learn as much about your person as possible.

(1) LOCATE AT LEAST THREE SOURCES (PRIMARY OR SECONDARY)

Make sure that you are finding/locating credible sources. These will inform your character analysis and knowledge of this person... so you want to make sure its as accurate as possible. Be sure to cite your sources in MLA or APA format. I mean, I'll take Chicago-style if you want to be fancy.

(2) GO AHEAD AND ANSWER THE 'TELL MY STORY' QUESTIONS NOW

When you complete the speed dating activity, you'll want to already know the answers to the questions. So, while you are researching, fill out those questions.

(3) ONE-PARAGRAPH SYNOPSIS

Write a minimum of five sentences explaining this person. It doesn't have to be super formal or super extensive. It can be like a mini-biography that you'd post on a dating site or one the back cover of a book.

(4) CREATE THE PHOTO-COLLAGE

Create a photo-collage that represents your person. This could be designed like an instagram page or a Twitter page or a FB page.... or it could simply by a collage pasted together. It is the visual representation of your person. Therefore, pick things that represent that person and are individualized.

English Class Presents

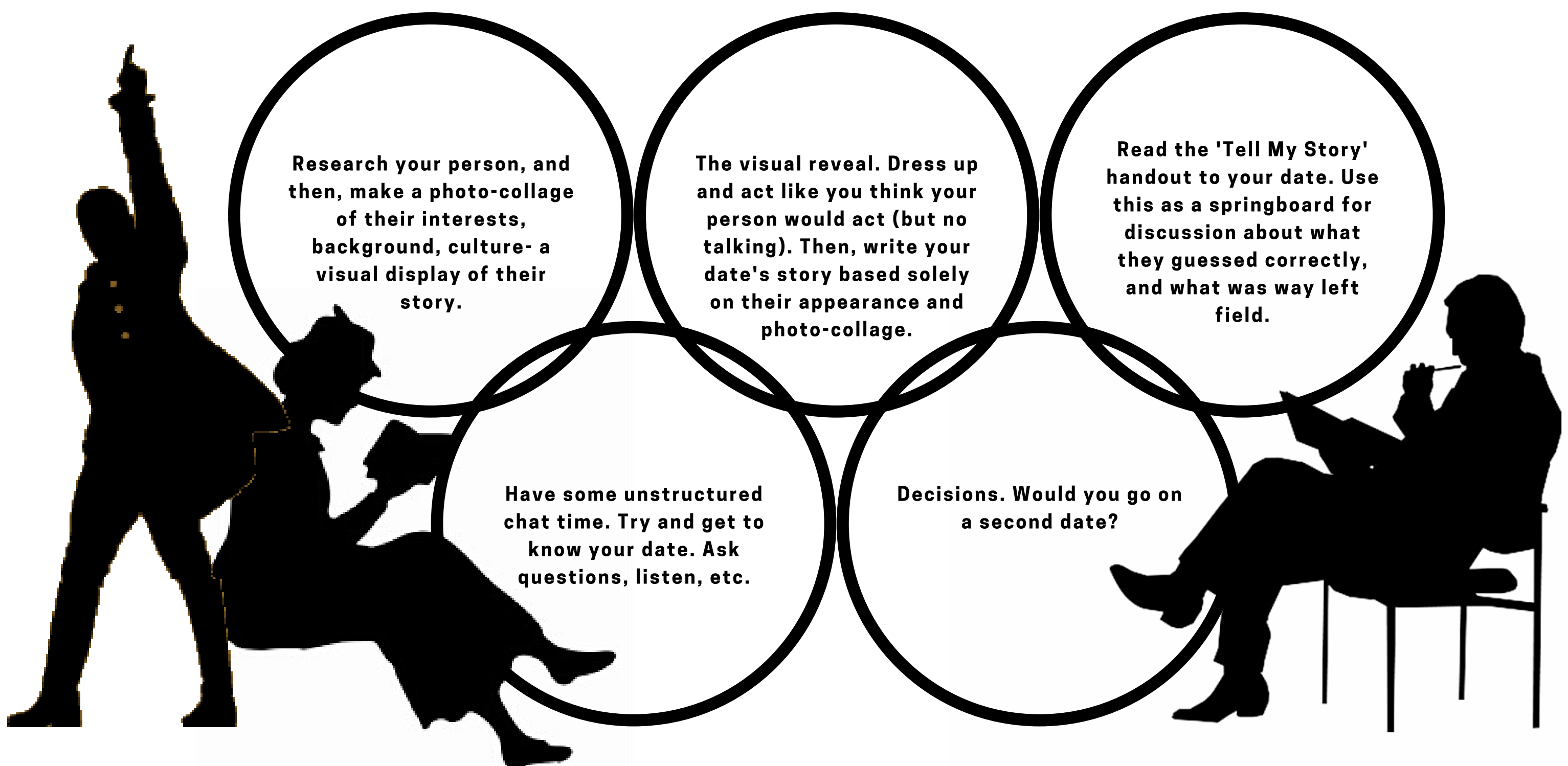
TELL MY STORY

A NEW WAY TO CONDUCT BLIND DATING.

DIRECTIONS. SO BANAL. BUT SO NECESSARY.

You will act as if you are your selected/assigned person. Be as creative as you would like to be. How do you think you person spoke/speaks? What were/are their interests? How would/do they dress? What kinds of questions would/do they ask? What would/are their personality quirks be? What would have been/is current news at that/the time? What were/are they writing? What had/have they written? What social movement did/do they support? What stories would they tell from their past on a first date? You get to make an educated guess and then act accordingly.

Remember: the goal is to try to learn as much about the other people and to try and get them to know as much about you as possible. Here is the twist though: in phase one, you only get to see the person. Then, you will receive a 'Tell My Story' handout. Before you even begin talking to one another, you have to make a judgment call based on looks alone and their photo-collage. Each of you will get to make a photo-collage of things that you found about your person. Before you get to have the discussion part of the blind date (phase two), you will read the other person their story (from your first impression judgment). Then, you can use that as discussion points for phase two. In phase three, you get to have unstructured chat time. In phase four, you get to decide if you would go on a second date or nah...



English Class Presents

TELL MY STORY

A NEW WAY TO CONDUCT BLIND DATING.

YOUR NAME IS:

AND THIS IS YOUR STORY.

YOU ARE CURRENTLY YEARS OLD.

FOR WORK, YOU'RE A(N):

YOU GREW UP IN:

YOUR FAMILY HERITAGE IS:

YOU HAVE SIBLINGS. AND YOU ARE THE:

DURING YOUR CHILDHOOD, YOUR MOM WAS A

DURING YOUR CHILDHOOD, YOUR DAD WAS A

YOU GREW UP [SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS].

YOU RECEIVE A PROPER EDUCATION.

ONE THING THAT YOU'D BE WILLING TO DIE FOR IS:

ONE THING THAT YOU WANT TO BE REMEMBERED FOR IS:

THE CRAZIEST THING THAT YOU'VE EVER DONE IS:

YOUR BIGGEST SUCCESS WAS:

YOUR BIGGEST SUCCESS WILL BE:

YOUR GREATEST FEAR IS:

YOU THINK YOU GET MARRIED ONE DAY.

YOU THINK YOU'LL HAVE MARRIAGE(S).

YOU WANT TO HAVE KIDS.

YOU THINK YOU'LL BE A PARENT.

YOU ARE MOST ATTRACTED TO IN A PARTNER.

YOUR INTERESTS INCLUDE (LIST 3):

YOU HAVE TRAVELED TO:

RELIGION IMPORTANT TO YOU.

DEAL-BREAKERS IN A RELATIONSHIP FOR YOU ARE (LIST 3):

YOU THINK YOU'LL DIE A TRAGIC DEATH.