***The Road* Analysis Activities**

**Objectives:** Students will formulate argument paragraphs with supporting evidence. Students will analyze how an author uses rhetorical strategy to affect overall meaning in an argument. Students will analyze the overall effect of motif as it is used to develop arguments in the work

**Assignment: You will analyze/pre-write for the following topics in groups, and then complete individual original written analysis for each activity over the next 3 days in class. You may use the same evidence/quotes as your group, but your commentary/written analysis must be developed independently and may not be plagiarized.**  You may type your written analysis on your electronic device in class. **Activities are due to turnitin.com.**

**------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------- ----------------Creating argument paragraphs: “Dreams”**

**Read the following quotes**:

1. “He said that the right dreams for a man in peril were dreams of peril and all else was the call of languor and of death” - *The Road*, McCarthy
2. “When your dreams are of some world that never was, or of some world that never will be and you are happy again then you will have given up. Do you understand? And you can’t give up.” – *The Road*, McCarthy

The protagonist (the man or Papa) in the novel, *The Road,* seems to address the significance of dreams in a contradictory way. Take some time to think about the implications of each quotation. Then write a carefully reasoned response for each quote that explores the validity of the assertion, using examples from your reading, observation, or experience to develop your position. Create a claim and one well-developed warrant paragraph for each assertion (quotes A and B)

**II. Create a Map of Significant Arguments “on the road” and “off the road”.**

Draw a map of “The Road”. Place what you believe are the 3 most important arguments that are made “On the Road”. For each, identify the event, the speaker/context, a quote (with a strategy), and a commentary explaining why the argument is significant to the work as a whole. Then place what you believe are the 3 most important arguments that are made “Off the Road”. Identify the event, the speaker/context, a quote (with a strategy), and a commentary explaining why the argument is significant to the work as a whole. Try to consider tone and attitude when creating commentary.

**III. Create a Web: Analyzing motifs and their significance to an underlying argument**

**Choose one of the following motifs:**

* Cold Smoke/Fire Strangers
* Death Water Dark/Light

Draw a circle, placing the motif in the middle. Create four branches off of the center. Find 3 strong examples (quotes) that best represent the **development of the motif** in the novel and place in the branches. What argument is attached to this motif as ideas shift. Develop commentary that argues the significance of each example to the work as a whole.