**Freshman Spring Essay Part One**

**Directions**: You are going to write a research essay for me after break. BUT, unlike the fall essay you will be required to do more research on your own, and eventually develop (with some structure from me) a research question. Prior to developing a research question, you have to understand your research topic. Below you have two lists – one list is a list of potential topics, the other is a list of foreign policy related issues. Over the next couple of days spend some time researching a couple of these topics in relation to the foreign policy related issues. After break, I will give you the next piece of the assignment.

**Possible topics for Global Conflict Paper**

**Off-limits topics: WWI, WWII, Korean War, Vietnam War, Cuba. Other conflicts not on the list are possible but MUST approved by Myers first (but if it’s solid, you are probably good to go).**

* Rohinyga Crisis
* North Korea
* Civil War in Syria
* ISIS
* Civil War in Libya
* Conflict in Ukraine (current or recent takeover of Crimea)
* Violence in DRC
* Somalia
* Boko Haram
* South China Sea
* War in Yemen
* Violence in Colombia
* Guatemala in 1950s
* Opium Wars
* Russo-Japanese War
* Serbia/Bosnia genocide (how to phrase this one)
	+ Yugoslavian dissolution?
* Sudanese wars
* Iran-Iraq War
* Israel-Egypt conflict
* Soviet-Afghan War
* Egyptian Coup (recent)
* Boxer Rebellion
* Sino-Japanese War (First one/second one)
* First-Indochina/Franco-Vietnamese War
* Cambodian Civil War

**Potential Foreign Policy Related Issues**

* Religion/religious conflict
* Identity (social classes/ethnic groups
* Economics (control over land/resources)
* Technology
* Human interaction with the environment
* Terrorism
* Military alliances
* Laws and legal rights
* Human rights
* Gender
* Biology (disease, viruses, medicines, vaccines)
* Social inequality (caste and class systems)
* Man’s impact on geography
* Development of government and political systems
* In the event that you fall in love with one of the aforementioned topics, and a foreign policy related issue you can start your serious research. In other words, start finding legitimate academic sources you can use on an essay. But remember, I have veto power, so make sure it is a legit topic.
* You will have library research time Tuesday, and Wednesday this week. Once I come back, I will give you more time, but I am assuming you will have your topic/issue pretty much figured out and be ready to roll.
* Word to the wise – don’t pick one you think will be easy, pick one you enjoy researching. Remember the hardest part about a research essay, is the research.