Steps for Creating a Character Collage

Roles

**Researcher** Underlines or highlights key ideas on **Student Handout 2B**. Finds additional information about belief system from textbooks, the library, or the teacher. Helps brainstorm ideas for the character collage. Makes sure the most important ideas are included. Assists in the production of the final collage.

**Graphic Designer** Responsible for the overall look and organization of the character collage. Leads discussion, takes notes, and contributes ideas during the brainstorming session. Makes sure visuals accurately represent the ideas of the belief system. Leads in the production of the final collage.

**Illustrator** Traces the outline of the historical figure and attaches the face to it. Creates visuals for the character collage. Helps brainstorm ideas for the collage. Creates a rough sketch of the collage for the teacher to review. Assists in the production of the final collage.

**Paraphraser** Reads quotes on **Student Handout 2B** aloud to the group. Helps brainstorm ideas for the character collage. Leads discussion on how to paraphrase (restate in simple words) the historical figure’s quotes so classmates can easily understand them. Assists in the production of the final collage.

Steps

**Step 1: Read and discuss your belief system.** Take turns reading the information on **Student Handout 2B** aloud. As you read, have the Researcher underline or highlight key details. Talk about the “Stop Here and Discuss” questions.

After your group has read the information on **Student Handout 2B**, highlighted key details, and discussed the “Stop Here and Discuss” questions, have your teacher initial here.
Step 2: Brainstorm ideas for key words, phrases, and visuals to include in the character collage. Your group must create a character collage—a life-size outline of a historical figure, within and around which are carefully arranged key ideas, symbols, and illustrations that represent the person’s beliefs. Your classmates should be able to “read” your collage and understand the key ideas of the belief system. The Graphic Designer should make sure your collage includes

- at least five key words or phrases that represent main ideas of the belief system
- at least five visuals—illustrations, symbols, pictures—that represent main ideas of the belief system

After your group has brainstormed words and visuals for your character collage, have your teacher initial here.

Step 3: Paraphrase the quotes for your collage. You must rewrite the quotes from your historical figure in simple words, or paraphrase them, for your character collage. The Paraphraser should lead the group in paraphrasing the quotes on Student Handout 2B so they are simple, memorable, and easily understood by a sixth grader.

After your group has paraphrased the quotes, have your teacher initial here.

Step 4: Brainstorm ideas for how to lay out (arrange) the character collage and create a rough draft. Talk about how to arrange the words, phrases, visuals, and paraphrases on the character collage. These can be placed within or outside of the outline of the character, but should be arranged in a way that helps the viewer understand the main ideas of the belief system. The format of your character collage should reflect the beliefs of your character. For example, if your character valued neatness, the contents of the collage would be arranged in a very orderly way. The Illustrator should quickly create a rough draft of the character collage on a standard-size piece of paper.

After your group has created a rough draft of the character collage, have your teacher initial here.

Step 5: Sketch the outline of your historical figure and create your final character collage. After you have received feedback from your teacher on your character collage, the Illustrator should sketch the outline of your historical figure on a large piece of unlined paper. Tape or glue the drawing of the figure’s face from Student Handout 2C to the outline. Then, work neatly and carefully to create the final version of your character collage. Use color and other creative touches to make the collage visually appealing.