**The Unknown Citizen by W.H. Auden** Resource P.3

**Step 1 = Group Work**

1. Read independently and annotate
2. In groups answer the following question cornel response.
3. What one work in the poem best represents society
4. Why does the work you chose represent society? What about it represents society. Be specific. Why?
5. What has the unknown citizen done that the speaker believes to be good?
6. Who is speaking in the poem? Why does the speaker use first person plural (we, our, etc.) to refer to him or herself?
7. Why is the citizen “unknown”?
8. Why do you think the state erected a monument for this person?
9. Do you believe the unknown citizen was happy? Why or why not?
10. How would you like to be remembered? Would you like to be remembered the same way this Citizen was?

**Step 2 = Independent**

1. Individually, imagine you are a columnist for the local newspaper. The Unknown Citizen was a supporter of the newspaper, and you have been assigned the following task: *Attend the dedication of the Unknown Citizen’s monument and write an editorial on the event. This poem was read aloud at the Monument Dedication. How do you react to the words of the speaker? How do you react to the monument? What is the family’s reaction?*
   1. How to structure your writing follow these steps for credit.
      1. Introduce the event (the dedication of the monument or the funeral) with a “lead” using the 5 W’s and an H: Who, What, When, Where, Why, and How. )
      2. An editorial is an opinion piece.
      3. Make your argument clear from the start of the piece.
      4. Support your points with facts (in this case, use the text as evidence)
      5. Try to capture and hold your audience’s attention. Remember that if this were a newspaper, your writing would be competing with other stories and advertisements!