American Literature *Into the Wild*

Characterization

Authors use many methods to develop characterization: how the author describes that character, how a character behaves, what he/she thinks about or believes in, and what other characters say about that person. Your job is to complete a characterization poster for Chris McCandless. You may work alone or with **one** other person. You will need to find the following:

* **Four** quotes of what other people said about Chris. Think about Chris’ parents, Carine, Wayne Westerberg, Jim Gallien, Ronald Franz, Gaylord Stuckey, Jan Burres, as well as some of Chris’ former schoolmates. Each of these people said many things about Chris. **Be sure to write down the page numbers!** Explain, in sentence form, what each quote revealed about Chris; why is this quote important among all others?
* **Two** quotes revealing things Chris himself said. Think about his postcards, letters to Carine, Ron, his journal entries, things he said to the various people in his life**. Be sure to write down the page numbers!** Explain, in sentence form, what each quote revealed about Chris; why is this quote important among all others?
* **Two** quotes revealing Chris’ thoughts. Think about his journal entries, his letters to Carine, Ron, and Wayne. **Be sure to write down the page numbers!** Explain, in sentence form, what each quote revealed about Chris; why is this quote important among all others?
* **Four** quotes from the book that demonstrate Chris’ actions (2) and goals (2). This does not mean a person must be speaking these lines, but that Krakauer narrated them in the book and you are **copying** that example. For instance: “Then…he arranged all his paper currency in a pile on the sand…and put a match to it” (29). **No one is actually speaking here, but you are copying a line out of the book, so it is a quote. Be sure to write down the page numbers!** Explain, in sentence form, what each quote revealed about Chris; why is this quote important among all others?
* Draw a picture depicting **Chris** at some point in his odyssey. The picture must reflect a true aspect of any part of Chris’ journey.
* Neatly and creatively organize all quotes and Chris’ portrait on a poster. Be sure that all areas are labeled.
* Choose your quotes carefully. Quotes should reveal **significant** aspects of who Chris McCandless was. Quoting Chris’ boss at McDonald’s about the fact that Chris didn’t like to wear socks is not important-it doesn’t tell us a about a life changing decision, philosophy, or action.