TWO WRITING OPTIONS (DAILY GRADE)

**1.** I CAN SPEAK! by George Saunders: *In Persuasion Nation*, the collection of short stories in which this piece was published, received significant praise for its biting satire regarding American themes when it came out in 2006. We will be discussing how Absurdism applies in our time period over the next week, so I’d like you to consider what we’ve discussed already in our Absurdism unit earlier in the year: think about our analysis of your existential/absurdist short story, *The Metamorphosis* and *R&G are Dead?*  as you reflect on the story and then apply it to the prompt below.

**How does Saunders combine elements of satire and Absurdism to skewer American society in this story?**

Respond to this prompt on a separate sheet of paper. Please write at least TWO detailed paragraphs using appropriate paraphrased and quoted textual evidence to support your argument regarding TWO aspects of American society being criticized.

**2.** Pick ONE of the two contemporary poems and write at least TWO detailed paragraphs using appropriate paraphrased and quoted textual evidence to support your argument regarding the poet’s complex attitude toward his/her subject. You may organize these like two body paragraphs in a timed write, by either topic, beginning/ending of the poem, pre-shift/post-shift (if applicable), or literary device.

\*\*I will be grading mainly on depth of analysis, voice, and style, as we need to practice those the most before the exam next Wednesday! (And just for your future writing in general. 😊 )