

- (1) Listen to Jill Lepore describe the polio epidemic here --  
<https://www.newyorker.com/podcast/the-new-yorker-radio-hour/jill-lepore-on-how-a-pandemic-ends>
- (2) In a Word document, answer these questions (you may need to do research beyond listening to the podcast):
  - What year had the most number of polio cases?
  - How many cases were there that year?
  - What age group was most affected by polio?
  - Describe the public health efforts used to combat polio before the vaccine?
  - What sacrifices did people make to combat polio?
- (3) Do a bit more research and answer the following questions:
  - How many cases of COVID-19 have there been in the United States? How many total in the world?
  - How many deaths have been attributed to COVID-19 in the United States? How many in the world?
  - Describe how different age groups are affected by COVID-19? Which ones are getting it, transmitting it, getting sick? Getting hospitalized? Dying?
  - This is a new disease and the science is and will continue to reveal more about it. Understanding that, what are some of the long-term effects of COVID-19 that concerns scientists at this time?
- (4) At the end of the document, cite your sources for the above answers and describe why you found those sources credible.
- (5) In a second Word document, write an essay in which you react to the following prompts:
  - What sacrifices are you willing to make to protect yourself and others from the spread of COVID-19?
  - Are you willing to do more or less than your peers?
  - Are you willing to do more or less than other age groups or demographics?
  - Would you be willing to make greater sacrifices if COVID-19 placed other groups of people (babies? Toddlers? Young children?) at risk for significant health effects or death? If yes, why? Which lives are worth of more effort?
  - What about your peers? Would they be willing to make greater sacrifices if COVID affected different populations differently?
  - Ethically and morally – what do we owe each other during a pandemic?
- (6) In a third Word document, write a few paragraphs or a bulleted list explaining how you would support a friend who had to quarantine for 14 days because they were exposed to COVID-19? What would you want that friend to know? How would you encourage your friend to stay in quarantine for the whole 14 days? What evidence could you site to persuade him this his effort is important to others?

#### Formatting instructions

- Your documents should be double-spaced with 1-inch margins. Email all three to me no later than 4:30 p.m. on the deadline date listed on your outcome letter.
- There is no page requirement. Rather, I will judge your submission on the quality and completeness of your responses. Do your best work.