**Notes for World Literature—Unit 1:**

**“Good morning, Miss Dove”**

**“Education, Our Own Work”**

* Human mind displays the “Infinite Mind”—What is the “Infinite Mind”?
* “Most students need encouragement to sustain, instruction to aid, and direction to guide them.” Do you agree?
* According to Todd, what is the path for developing an excellent mind? *Hard, untiring labor*
* What is the first and great object of education? *To discipline the mind*
* What does he say about the ability to concentrate?
* Is the memory important in Todd’s view?
* Do you see any problem in what Todd says in this essay? Do you have any critique of his perspective to offer? *The motive of being distinguished and honored by other people*

**A School of Facts**

* What does the name “Gradgrind” make you think of the person?
* What are the “little vessels” that the second paragraph describes?
* Why does Gradgrind call Sissy “girl #20?
* In your opinion, does Bitzer do a good job describing a horse? If you had never seen a horse or been around horses, would this give you an adequate picture?
* What would life be like if we all followed Gradgrind’s philosophy? No imagination, no emotion-- sympathy, affection, laughter, anger-- no humor, no play…just plain cold facts and reason
* What do you think Dickens point is in this selection?

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What do you notice about the lady in *Mona Lisa*?

**The Garden Party—**Talk about author a bit

* What kind of family were the Sheridans?
* The Sheridan’s attitude toward the poor:
  + --Their own plans were too important to be interrupted; 5 children in one report, 6 in another; after the party, Mrs. Sheridan did not want to be reminded; on her way down the hill, Laura didn’t have room inside of her for sadness and sympathy—it was too full of the party
* What got in the way of Laura’s sympathy?
* Why do you think that Mrs. Sheridan wanted to send some food to the poor family?
* Why was Laura so conscious of her hat when she reached the neighboring houses? (“Forgive my hat.”) Have you ever had that experience? What about our cars or our houses?
* What kind of insight that Laura have in her visit to the dead man? Is she a dynamic or static character? (the poor man was in no way inferior to her nor was he less human)
* Point out various language devices: metaphor, simile, figurative
* Go over different points of view—p.14