**Student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_\_ ENGLISH 11**

**Instructions: COMPLETE ALL QUESTIONS AND MARGIN NOTES using the CLOSE reading strategies practiced in class. This requires reading of the article three times.**

**Step 1: Skim** the article using these symbols as you read:

**(+)** agree, **(-)** disagree, **(\*)** important, **(!)** surprising, **(?)** wondering

**Step 2: Number** the paragraphs. **Read** the article **carefully** and **make notes in the margin**.

Notes should include:

* Comments that show that you **understand** the article.
* Questions you have that show what you are **wondering** about as you read.
* Comments that show connections to the article and inferences made while reading.

**Step 3:** A **final quick read** noting anything you may have missed during the first two reads.

**Step 4:** COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

* Define any unknown vocabulary words. DUE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Purpose and Audience Sentence
* Summary Statement
* 1+ page reflection

**Williams outraged by racial signs shown at U-Prep** By Brian Pearson, *AppealDemocrat.com*

Parents, coaches and officials from Williams Junior Senior High School were left worrying and wondering by events at a basketball game their team played in Redding on Wednesday. They were worrying about how their students were treated, and they were wondering why it could have happened.

During the varsity contest at University Preparatory School, they said, students in the home crowd held up signs using a thinly-veiled reference to a racial slur to taunt the visiting Williams players. A picture of that sign, appearing beside another that made specific mention of one of the Williams players, was posted to Facebook after the game. Williams fans said the signs, using references to racial stereotypes, went well beyond the usual high school sporting event trash talk.

"I noticed it right before the start of the varsity game. They brought out banners with drawings of beans, and 'beans' written all over them," said parent Jaime Davalos, who was at the game. "I think the faculty put a stop to that right off the bat. (The signs were up) for maybe the first five minutes of the game before a staff member took them down. It was a big deal. People were starting to get mad on our side."

The student body of Williams High School was 89 percent Hispanic in 2014-15, according to state Department of Education data. The basketball team is co prised predominantly of Hispanic players. U-Prep's enrollment was 72 percent white in 2014-15. On Thursday morning, Superintendent Jennifer Foglesong said the district was working with U-Prep's to address the issue. And U-Prep's principal and superintendent Shelle Peterson, in a written response to a request for comment, confirmed her school had reached out to Williams, and they were working proactively to address the incident.

Head coach Ben Padilla said he initially didn't realize what the signs said, but was informed by his players that members of the home crowd were making disparaging remarks during warm-ups.

"I noticed that there were some signs over there, but my sight is not the best. I did hear some of my kids say that their players were making comments like 'You guys are felons,' and 'You guys are fugitives' and another said 'I hope you pay your child support.' To me, being older than them, it made sense what they were getting at," Padilla said. At some point, Padilla said, assistant coach Armando Bautista pointed out the signs to him.

Davalos said the incident bothered him. "I couldn't sleep last night, just thinking about why something like that would happen," Davalos said. "If they are on the schedule again, I wouldn't let my kid go, and I wouldn't go either." Bautista shared the sentiment.

"I have a 9-year-old daughter who was there, and she's asking me 'What is this about?' I'm going to have to explain to her how in 2016 it can happen," Bautista said.

Selene Tapia, member of the Williams Unified School District board of trustees, whose son was at the game as a member of the junior-varsity team, said she couldn't fathom how it could have been allowed to happen.

"As a member of the board, I would hope that this would never happen again," she said. "I don't know why it happened in the first place. As a parent, I'm a little more outraged. My son was there. The only thing I can compare it to is what happened with those six girls in Arizona (a reference to a January incident at Desert Vista High School in which six students posed with shirts that spelled out a racial slur).

To some Williams residents, the kids' behavior isn't the only issue. They say that the students' bad behavior continued even after the signs were confiscated, and they blame that on the administration and the referees.

"To me, I get it. They're kids. Kids are brutal to each other, especially when you get into athletic competitions," Padilla said. "But at the same time, there were a lot of parents and administration there. That's what I was disappointed with. They were just kind of letting this behavior go by.

"Even the refs — they could see the signs. One ref was in that corner a lot during the game, and they could have shut the game down until the signs were removed." Witnesses said some University Prep students used their cellphones to continue to display the word "bean" after their signs were taken, and that they continued racially disparaging chants and comments.

Bautista and Padilla said they had a conversation about not playing the game. After talking with the team, they decided to let their kids play.

***Notes on my thoughts, reactions and questions as I read:***

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**Reflection Topics:**

***Direction: Write a 1+ page reflection on a separate piece of paper.***

1. Prejudice is something of the past; society has learned from history and we no longer experience prejudice or discrimination. Agree or disagree? Explain your answer and give examples for support.

*8.RI.3,8,9*