**Analyzing a Scientific Text**

**Standards:**

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RST.11-12.9  
Synthesize information from a range of sources (e.g., texts, experiments, simulations) into a coherent understanding of a process, phenomenon, or concept, resolving conflicting information when possible.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RST.11-12.2  
Determine the central ideas or conclusions of a text; summarize complex concepts, processes, or information presented in a text by paraphrasing them in simpler but still accurate terms.

**Objectives:**

SWBAT draw conclusions about an author’s intent by reading a small portion of a text.

SWBAT use technology to create a concept map and presentation to convey information.

SWBAT support ideas using additional resources.

**Directions:**

Drawing information from small pieces of information is important in scientific thinking and problem solving. It is also important to be able to support the ideas gathered with additional resources. For today’s task, you will be responsible for concluding the purpose of an author’s writing (i.e. pro-scientific reasoning or anti-scientific reasoning) from minimal information. Go to the Library of Congress website <https://www.loc.gov/resource/mss85590.004/?sp=3>. From here you will find a text with science in the title. You will find the title of the text at this site. You will be taken directly to the table of contents. From here you can look through any of the pages you wish. Do not spend too much time trying to read the whole thing (there is 490 pages and we are limited on time). You are not allowed to do any research on the author or the text itself. If you are found to be in violation of this rule, there will be a massive point deduction. You are permitted to conduct research on some of the terms used to find supportive information for your presentation. Working in pairs you will use Prezi or MindMeister (both found on Mr. Coulter’s website) to produce a concept map of your ideas. This concept map needs to visually represent how you concluded the intent of the author. You will then be responsible for giving a presentation from this concept map, so make sure it has a logical flow and enough information that you will be able to provide an adequate explanation to the class. Attached you will find a rubric that I will be using to grade your research and presentation.

