**Group Discussion Questions**

1. The success and allure of reality television is very interesting. What does it say about our society? How is “voyeurism” a part of human society?
2. In the film, Christof says: “we accept the reality with which we are presented”. Is this true of human beings? Why or why not?
3. Truman’s life was “real” because he believed and accepted the “reality” he perceived. Do you agree or disagree with this statement?
4. Recall the specific products advertised within the show (Kaiser Chicken, macaroni, Mococoa, Dog Fancy, Marlon’s beer, the Chef’s Pal, Elk Rotary Mower, Carlton Homes, etc.). How were these things endorsed? By whom? In what surroundings?
5. Who holds power over “The Truman Show”? Who is responsible for the actions being filmed?

***The Truman Show* – Personal Essay Assignment**

Choose to complete a personal essay on **one** of the following topics:

1. Many believe that *The Truman Show* demonstrates an individual’s struggle to gain his true self. Comment on what the role of media could be in causing an individual to not know his true self. Do you believe that audiences are weak and unable to resist the power of the media? Are they empty vessels easily manipulated by the media?

**OR**

Write about how you have struggled to gain your own true self.

2. In the film, Christof says, “We accept the reality which we are presented.” To what extent do you agree with Christof?

3. Write an essay that discusses what is “real” to you.

Tips:

1. Your essay should be three pages, typed 12 point font, and double-spaced in length.
2. Remember to use your voice.
3. Use I!
4. Find moments to use descriptive language.
5. Leads – start with a quote, dialogue, description of setting, or a small story that relates.
6. Conclusion – leave your reader thinking at the end.
7. Challenge yourself to sway from the five paragraph essay structure. Be creative!

**Create a prewriting organizer below!**