**The Hunger Games:** An annual televised event where the ruthless Capitol of Panam randomly selects one boy and one girl, each between the ages of 12 and 18, as tributes from each of the twelve districts. Tributes enter a game of survival where they are forced to fight one another to the death. The victor then wins a new house for themselves and their families in their district, along with food, fame, and wealth.

1. Greek and Roman stories were the inspiration for the games of the Hunger Games. Gladiator Games require 3 elements:  
   1. Ruthless, all powerful government  
   2. People being forced to fight to the death  
   3. The games need to be a popular entertainment  
   Do you believe any of those elements exist in today’s world? Are there any precursors to those elements in today’s world? Why or why not?
2. The games of the Hunger Games are televised across the nation. The author has compared this to a cross between reality television and images of war we see on TV today. If these games existed, do you think people would watch them? Are there any existing reality or fictional TV shows that you would compare them too?