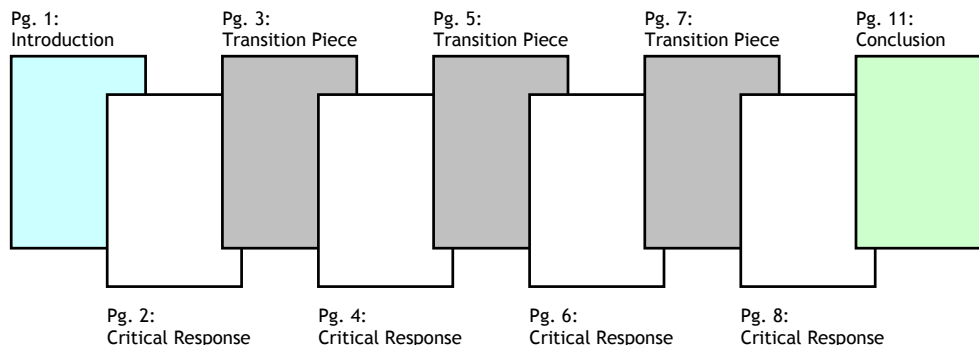


# Organizing the “Mixed-Paper”

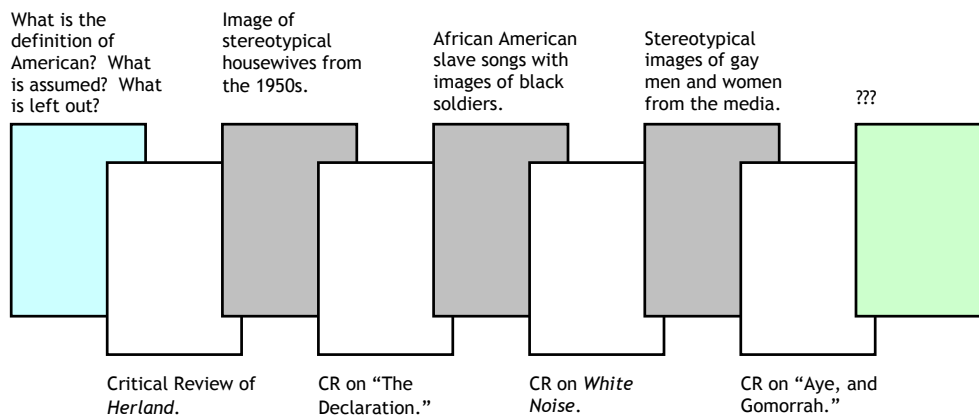
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The Mash-Up/Mixed-Paper requires: 1) a critical question, claim, or concept that will frame and organize your project; 2) a one-page introduction; 3) four of your Critical Response Papers, revised, and ordered according to some analytic; 4) at least 3 transition pieces – an image, verse, quote, or combination – between each response paper; 5) a one-page conclusion. You will combine, layer, and arrange your writing, outside writing, verse, and image into a “mixed-paper” that makes a collective argument about the readings, about literatures of the fantastic, or about the goals of the class. At minimum, your “mixed-paper” should be organized like the following (though you could insert a transition piece after the Introduction and before the Conclusion as well):



## Organizational Analytic, Or What Are the Connections?

Much like your Critical Response Papers, your “mixed-paper” requires an overarching, guiding argument or principle – called the organizational analytic – that frames, connects, arranges, and drives your project. However, the organizational analytic should be more than just a simple, descriptive theme. In other words, how might your “mixed-paper” tell an analytical story? How might it show a progression of ideas, connecting different kinds of texts, analyses, and evidence? The progression and connection need not be perfectly linear, summative, and seamless – there will be gaps, overlaps, intersections, repulsions, and complexities. What are the interpretive leaps made from one page to the next, and how might all of the pieces form a constellation of meaning?



Consider the “mixed-paper” above, which begins with the organizational analytic that “the definition of American is idealized, problematic, and narrow and excludes many people like women, people of color, and people of different sexualities.” Depending on the texts used, the images, and the transitions made, the conclusion of this project could be on the one hand a very simplistic, superficial, *Oprah*-like lesson. On the other hand, by selecting carefully, ordering carefully, and really thinking about how one piece connects to the next (and to the project as a whole), the mixed-paper can really reveal the ways that the texts at hand critique racism and analyze race in potentially liberating ways. Remember that the most successful “mixed-papers” will have a useful frame, a specific scope, will tell a ‘story’, and will be more than the sum of its individual parts.