Student Name:

Historical Atrocities Unit Pre-assessment

Instructions: Please respond to the following questions. Try to use precise language and detail in your response.

1. In a few sentences, what do you know about the following events that have occurred throughout history?
   a. Irish Potato Famine
   b. Native American Assimilation
   c. Institutionalization of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities
   d. Eugenics Movement

2. Please list some of the factors that enable governments or other organized groups of people to systematically oppress (the “Untouchables” from the lowest Caste in India), commit violence against (slaves in Colonial America), or systematically kill (Jews in the Holocaust) large numbers of people.

3. How might you define a historical atrocity? Give some examples of those you know about that happened on a mass or large scale (i.e. Holocaust, American Slavery, Rwandan Genocide, Irish Potato Famine, etc.).
4. Why do you think these kind of events are able to happen over and over again at different points in human history?

5. Given your understanding of historical atrocities and those you provided as examples, do you think there are any atrocities currently unfolding in our world today and if so, what might they be?

6. Please check the two topics below you are most interested in studying.

[ ] Irish Potato Famine
[ ] Native American Assimilation
[ ] Institutionalization of Individuals with Developmental Disabilities
[ ] Eugenics Movement