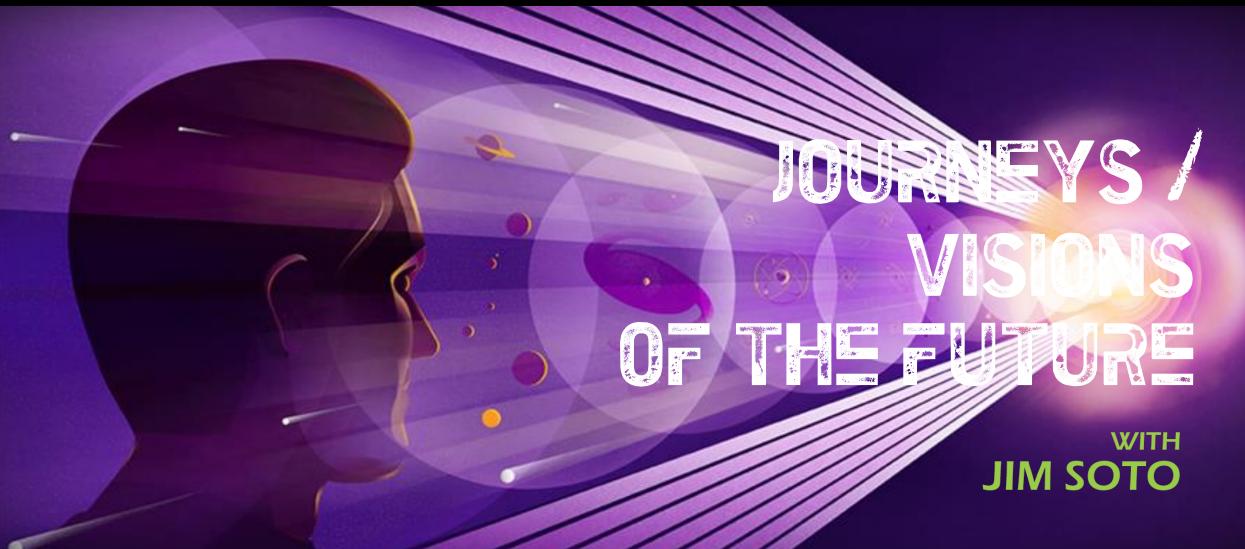
## UNIT 6 Journeys / Visions of the Future Independent Reading







#### **SPEAK YOUR MIND**

#### Fiction, Nonfiction, Poetry, Drama, and Folk Literature.

Think about the forms you have read for your own personal interest during the past year. These can include magazines as nonfiction and song lyrics as poetry.

Which one did you read the most for your own personal enjoyment? Why did you prefer it over others?

As a reader, you read for different purposes. Whether you read for enjoyment, to learn, or for information, applying reading strategies and skills will help you to become an active, independent reader. The selections in this unit include the different genres you have studied in this textbook. Apply the strategies and skills you've practiced throughout this course. Some of the selections will be in your text book, while some will be made available to you in my website.





### **JOURNEYS**

Several selections will show showcase journeys. A journey can be as simple as going from point A to point B, but what happens to the traveler between those two points fills volumes of literature. The concept of "journey" signals a progression—not just from one place to another, but also between one level of awareness or maturity and another.



Of the motifs in literature (a motif an element that reoccurs in the literature of the world from ancient times until today), the journey is one of the most popular, as the hero usually undergoes a journey to complete his/her quest and gain self-knowledge. As you read the selections in this unit, consider the type of journey described and what the characters gain from it in the end.

# The works we'll read will include selections such as:

- Homeless
- I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud
- Journey
- New Directions
- The Road Not Taken



#### VISIONS OF THE FUTURE



Other selections will deal with the future. When you think of the future, do you feel afraid or hopeful? Many writers have contemplated the future of humanity in light of advances in technology and political conflicts between nations. For such writers, the future holds grim promise, unless humans change their ways.

Other writers may take a more optimistic view of the future, believing that technology can and will allow people to do amazing things. Most stories in this unit could be read as either a warning or a promise of what is or what can be.



The works we'll read will include selections such as:

- A Sound of Thunder
- The Test
- Harrison Bergeron
- The Censors
- History Lesson
- and more...

## **ASSESSMENT**

1. Take a moment now and think about the topic that you find more appealing: journeys or the future. Write a **5 paragraph compare-contrast essay** explaining why you prefer one over the other in a composition paper. Your essay should have not less than **400 words**.



