Slaughterhouse Five: Time Shifts

# Choose ONE of the following THREE activities to complete in class today.

# Option 1: TEA Paragraphs (Solo)

TYPE and PRINT two TEA paragraphs that address the following questions:

1. Who is Billy Pilgrim and why has he come unstuck in time?
2. Give examples from the text that explain your reasoning (QUOTE the book! Don’t just paraphrase!).

# Option 2: Small Group Discussions (Small Group 🡪 Solo)

As a group discuss the questions below. Each person needs to keep quick notes during the discussion of points they think are particularly interesting.

1. How is time portrayed in this book? How is it different from our view of time? Why does the author want you to think about time this way?
2. On page 26-27 Billy states “The most important thing I learned on Tralfamadore was when a person dies he only appears to die. He is still very much alive in the past, so it is very silly for people to cry at his funeral. All moments, past, present, and future, always have existed, always will exist”. Why is this important to Billy? Why is it used by Vonnegut in this book?
3. Why do you think Billy first came unstuck in time during the war? Discuss the quote on page 60 stating “Among the things Billy Pilgrim could not change were the past, the present, and the future”.

After the discussion **write a paragraph** that talks about the 3 most interesting things that came up in your discussion, or that you learned in your discussion.

\*Each person should print out their notes and staple to their 1 paragraph.

# Option 3: Chapter Timeline (Solo or Partner)

1. Identify 10 of the 13 time shifts in chapters 2 and 3
2. Put them in chronological order in a timeline (this will be different from the order they are presented in the book!). I suggest using one of the big white pieces of paper to make sure you have enough room.
3. For each event:
   1. 1-2 word title for the event
   2. Summarize (one sentence) what happened
   3. Find a quote from the book that represents that event
   4. Write one sentence that answers: What does this event tell you about Billy Pilgrim?
4. BONUS: Color code the events so that different colors correspond to different stages in the Billy’s life.

When you are done, please place in my basket or hang your timeline on the wall.