Power Guided Notes

While you watch the video on power, fill out these guided notes. You will need to be able to refer back through these notes throughout the entire unit.

Define power:

Power is the ability to make others do what you would have them do.

There are 6 sources of power:

1. Physical Force:

   Controls of the means of force, whether in the police or a militia, is power at its most primal.

2. Wealth:

   Money creates the ability to buy results and to buy almost any other kind of power.

3. State Action:

   The use of law and bureaucracy to compel people to do or not to do certain things.

4. Social Norms:

   What other people think is okay, peer to peer.

5. Ideas:

   An idea can create power if it motivates enough people to change their thinking and actions.

6. Numbers

   A vocal mass of people creates power by expressing collective intensity of interest.
3 Laws of Power:

1. Power is Never Static:
   It's always either accumulating or decaying in a civic arena.

2. Power is Like Water:
   It flows like a current through everyday life. If you don't have power you get less power.

3. Power Compounds:
   If you have power you get more power.

What is the question of democracy?
What rules do we set up so that a few people don't accumulate too much power, and so they can't enshrine their privilege in policy?

What can you do?

1. Read Power:
   To read power means to pay attention to as many texts of power as you can.

2. Write Power:
   You have to believe that you have power. You have the right to write.

Power + character = a great citizen