

RANYA'S MAGICAL DC NIGHTS

Middle School Social Studies Exploration Workpack

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

Teacher/Class: _____

Target Grade Level: 6th – 8th Grade

Official DCPS / OSSE Social Studies Standards Alignment:

• Standard 6.47 (Driving Concept 5: Europe): Analyze at least one cultural element of a country located in Europe (e.g., art, literature, music, dance, cuisine, philosophy, religious or political thought), including its local significance and influence on other societies.

• Standard 6.2 (Driving Concept 1: The Power of Maps): Analyze how the environment and physical geography shape human behaviors and identities.

• Standard 7.37 (Driving Concept 3): Explain the structure, power and function of the federal government created by the Constitution.

Context: In the story, Ranya experiences a magical night where visiting iconic Washington, D.C. structures transports her directly to the ancient classical architectural marvels that inspired them. Use your knowledge from the book and your research skills to complete this analytical guide.

PART 1: THE ARCHITECTURAL BLUEPRINT TRACKER

Select **two** structural pairings from Ranya's journeys in the book and fill out the cross-cultural blueprint matrix below.

FEATURE ELEMENTS		PAIRING A: MONUMENT & ANCESTOR	PAIRING B: MONUMENT & ANCESTOR
D.C. Location & Ancient Match		U.S. Capitol Rotunda → The Pantheon (Rome)	Lincoln Memorial → _____ (Greece) OR Treasury Building → _____ (Anatolia)
Shared Design Traits (e.g., dome, columns, frieze, pediment)			
Original Ancient Purpose (Why was it built back then?)			
Modern American Purpose (What happens there today?)			

PART 2: CREATIVE HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Imagine Ranya discovers a secret chapter where she visits another historic D.C. structure built using columns or classical elements. Draft a short narrative description from Ranya's perspective as she steps across the threshold from modern Washington, D.C. into the ancient past. Detail what she sees, the shift in materials, and how she realizes the connection.