After watching a movie or listening to a TEDtalk or reading a piece of literature, a poem, or any other piece of writing, fill in the chart below. When complete, file into your “Inquiry” folder OR print and keep for future reference. You teacher may ask to keep your work as an example to expand understanding in the class

**Title** Sam the Athlete **Your name:** Hanna Hosseinzadeh

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| **Which Essential Question(s) is addressed in this piece of literature?** | **Content:**   1. What happens in the text/movie/Talk? 2. What is the main message/theme? | **Understanding:**  How does the text answer the EQ?  *Answer in full sentences. Record relevant quotes and page numbers/lines if needed.* |
| 1. Can we always live a life full of fear?  2. Why does everyone want to be the same as everyone else? | a) In the short story, Sam the  Athlete, Sam (protagonist of the story) joins a field hockey team at school, and is mistaken for "Samantha". The team was filled with girls. So he decides to act like a girl for the rest of the season by shaving his legs and wearing a skirt. What he didn't know was that it was a Co -Ed team and it was perfectly fine for him not to pretend to be a girl. In the end, Sam chose to wear the  skirt anyways because he enjoys it.  b) The main message of the story is to be yourself and not let the thought of others get into your way. Sam made the right desicion by choosing to wear it because it's what he truly is passionate about. | These two essential questions relate to the text in several ways. Sam was pretending to be a girl in fear that the team would find out he was actually a guy. He didn’t realize that it was a Co – Ed team, so naturally, it would have been acceptable if he was a guy on the team and still wore the skirt. Sam went the right way by deciding to still wear the skirt, he didn’t want to hide the fact that he loved wearing it. Tying in to the following question, Sam keeping the skirt proved that he is unique and doesn’t need to ‘fit’ in with the rest of society. As long as he is doing what he loves then he should stick with it and be the best that he can be. To answer the EQ’s, yes, we can try to live a life filled with fear but it’ll end up coming back around and hurting us in the end. So, we should be upright and honest and even though it might not conclude the way you wanted, its for the best. Following up on the second question, most people want to be the same as everyone around them because they feel the need to fit in with the rest of society. From experience, I think some people, just like me, are scared to stand out and really embrace their true selves. |