Do a close reading of the following excerpt of chapter 21.

“Then tell me this,” Cole said. “What are totems for?”

“They tell ancestry,” Edwin explained. “And they tell stories.”

“But how come they mostly have animals?”

“Animals are symbols. Tlingit tribes have two divisions—the Ravens and the Wolves. Closely related members form smaller clans. I’m from the Killer Whale clan.”

“I’m not Indian,” Cole said. “Does that mean I can’t carve a totem?”

Edwin chuckled. “Indians don’t own the trees or the right to carve. Carve anything you want. Your totem is your story, your search, and your past. Everybody has their own. That’s why you carve. That’s why you dance the dances. That’s why you live life—to discover and create your own story.”

What does Edwin mean when he says, “Your totem is your story, your search, and your past.”?
You will design and construct your own section of a class totem pole that captures the spirit of your own unique personality.

First, determine how much space you will have to work with.

- The totem pole will be eight (8) feet tall.
- There are ___________ students in this class.

Calculate the height of your template here.

- The totem pole will be eight (8) inches in diameter.

Calculate the circumference of your template here. This will be the length that your template needs to be. Consider rounding your answer up so you have a small overlap space for attaching to the totem.

- You MUST NOT make your section any larger than the space determined.

Next, using the measurements you calculated cut the template paper and construct a pattern for creating your section of the totem pole.

On your section you must include:

- I Am poem
- An image of an animal that best symbolizes your personality.

On your section you should include at least 3 other items that represent your unique personality. You could include:

- Pictures
- School related items
Created by Miss. Roberta Clarke, 7th Grade ELA Teacher, Mt. Savage Middle School

- Movie, concert ticket, game stubs
- Cartoons
- Drawings
- Small mementoes that help to portray who you are

For example: Miss Clarke might use a small pieced quilt block, pictures of Bobby and Johnny, pictures from New York City pictures of favorite book covers, (oh yeah, a picture of Johnny Depp!) favorite quotes, a figure of a whale, etc.

Be creative; think “outside the totem pole”. Use unusual materials: fabric, aluminum foil, paper towel tubes, candy wrappers, wrapping paper, scrapbook materials, etc. Can you make something be three-dimensional? There are no limitations except being careful of the weight of your section so that it will hold to the totem form and things will NOT fall off and it MUST NOT exceed the size of the surface area of the template.

Rubric:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptor</th>
<th>Possible</th>
<th>Earned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calculated and produced the correct size template</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes “I Am” poem</td>
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<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes animal image that symbolize your personality</td>
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<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes at least 3 other items to represent who you are</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entire template is covered neatly and effectively representing you as an individual</td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Include an index card with a description of each item you included on the template and why you chose those items. Be sure to explain why you chose the animal you chose.</td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
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<td></td>
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