*The Fire Next Time* Word Analysis

In the exercise you will be using Voyant word analysis tool to analyze Baldwin’s *The Fire Next Time*. Please read the entire book beforebeginning.

**Deliverables**:

* Your Voyant session URL
* A list of stop words you added to/deleted from the English stop words already available in Voyant.
* Prepared notes that will help you thoroughly explain your answers to the questions below.
* Prepared notes that will help you explain how you achieved your results, i.e. how you used a certain tool to explore a certain word or phrase.

**Getting Started**:

1. Search the “The Fire Next Time” in the Library catalog and select the electronic resource version.
2. Copy all of the text from the title, “My Dungeon Shook,” to the end of the essay “Down At The Cross.”
3. Paste the text into Voyant ([voyant-tools.org](http://voyant-tools.org/)) and click “reveal.” (It may be easier to cut and paste the text into a word doc and clean it up there before pasting it into Voyant.)
4. Use Voyant to explore *The Fire Next Time*. For more on this part of the assignment see the Voyant help doc.

**Questions:**

1. How does the word cloud visualization align with or differ from your original reading of the text. What words did you expect to see more of or less of?
2. What new insights into the text did you get from using Voyant? (Provide at least three.)
3. How might you use Voyant in conjunction with rereading *The* *Fire Next Time*?
4. In general, how can Voyant be used as a reading tool?
5. Discuss the limitations of Voyant. What are the caveats or shortcomings that scholars need to keep in mind when using the tool?
6. Explain how Voyant can be used as a distant reading tool? (If you don’t know what “distant reading” means, you will need to look it up.)
7. Explain a scenario in which Voyant may help you in your own scholarship and literary area of interest.