

Final Essay Exam

Grisanti English 8 2017

Directions: This is your opportunity to tie together all that we have learned all year and demonstrate how much your writing has grown since September.

Choose **ONE** option below, respond to and discuss in a fully developed essay.
You will be graded on the following qualities:

- ✓ **Planning** – Did you utilize the graphic organizer to plan your writing before you began your essay? Your completed graphic organizer will be part of your grade for the final exam. **ONE GRAPHIC ORGANIZER MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE WRITING YOUR ESSAY!**
- ✓ **Meaning** – Did you understand and fully answer all parts of the question?
- ✓ **Organization** – Is your essay easy to read? Does it flow smoothly? Do you use transitions effectively?
- ✓ **Development** – Did you support your answer with details?
- ✓ **Language and Conventions** – Did you use rich vocabulary and different types of sentences? Did you use correct spelling, usage, grammar and punctuation?

Option 1

Individual acts of **kindness** can make a difference. Illustrate this truth in two of the selections read this year. Be sure to mention the title and author of each work as well as the names of the **two** characters.

In your essay, be sure to include:

- An introduction
- A description of two acts of kindness
- How these acts made a difference
- A conclusion

OR

Option 2

Often characters **change** in the course of a novel, story, play, or biography/autobiography. Select two characters, each from a different work that you have read this year, and discuss how each character changed. Be sure to mention the title and author of each work as well as the names of the **two** characters.

In your discussion include:

- An introduction
- What each character was like before the change
- What caused each character to change
- How each character changed
- A conclusion

OR – see back...

Option 3

Frequently, the main characters in a text are introduced with certain dreams, plans, and expectations. In the course of the text, these main characters must come to terms with the difference between their **dreams and the reality** of the world around them. Write an essay that examines how the main characters navigate the journey from dreams to reality--What kind of course do they follow, and how are they changed for their journey? Be sure to mention the title and author of each work as well as the names of the **two** characters.

In your discussion include:

- An introduction
- What are the characters dreams, plans and expectations
- What course do they follow on their journey from dreams to reality
- How they are changed from their journey
- A conclusion

Option 4

Often a seemingly small action by a character in a novel, story, play, or biography/autobiography can change the lives of others around them. Select two characters, each from a different work that you have read this year, and discuss how each were a catalyst for change. Be sure to mention the title and author of each work as well as the names of the two characters.

In your discussion include:

- An introduction
- What action each character took to create the change
- How that action changed the lives or environment around them
- A conclusion

Option 5

Every day we are faced with decisions of right and wrong, most of which are easily and correctly dealt with. Sometimes however, decisions need to be made that are not easy or clear-cut when a character is forced to face a decision that involves a conflict of values; every potential course of action has some significant consequences. In an essay, using two different texts, describe the moral or ethical dilemmas the characters face; considering the effect of their actions on themselves and on their relationship with others. Be sure to mention the title and author of each work as well as the names of the two characters.

In your discussion include:

- An introduction
- The character
- How that action changed the lives or environment around them
- A conclusion