***A Raisin in the Sun/Fences* Essay**

Choose ONE of the following prompts and write a well-developed five-paragraph essay using substantial, specific evidence from both plays and fully developed analysis to support your thesis.

You must include an intro paragraph that states your thesis as the last sentence and a fully developed conclusion.

Use MLA format internal citations.

**Prompts**

A. Compare and contrast the effects of deferred dreams on Walter and Troy’s lives. Consider the impact on their jobs, decision-making, family and other relationships, and personalities.

B. Compare and contrast the types of husbands and fathers Walter and Troy are. Be sure to explain why they behave the way they do.

C. Compare and contrast Walter and Ruth’s relationship with Troy and Rose’s relationship. Consider what values seem central, the personality traits of the characters, the way they treat each other, and why their relationships are the way that they are.

**Please see the rubric on the back.**

**Synthesis Writing Rubric Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Thesis**

5 Thesis is a specific, arguable and insightful idea that clearly connects the texts.

4 Thesis is specific and arguable and connects the texts.

3 Thesis is a general statement that may contain an opinion, but is too broad to be a strong argument, or does not clearly connect the texts.

2 Thesis is a summary statement, or there is no clear thesis.

**Evidence**

8 Evidence from all texts is detailed, well-chosen, and used together to develop thesis.

7 Evidence from all texts is clear, specific, and supports thesis; evidence from texts is used

separately, rather than together, to support thesis.

6 Evidence shows understanding of text, but summarizes texts rather than supports thesis.

5 Evidence shows lack of understanding of text, there is a lack of evidence, or evidence mainly comes from one text.

**Analysis**

8 Analysis develops ideas expressed in the thesis by closely analyzing quotes and weaving evidence from all texts together to build an argument. All ideas are fully, clearly explained.

7 Analysis clearly explains how evidence supports the thesis, but does not further develop

ideas. Some evidence is closely analyzed and connections between the texts are clearly

explained.

6 Analysis remains focused on the thesis, but not all ideas are fully expressed. Few quotes

are closely analyzed and connections between the texts are hazy or inconsistent.

5 Analysis repeats evidence or thesis, does not support thesis, there is no analysis, or

analysis does not address all texts.

**Style**

7 Prose is articulate and original. Word choice is precise and sentence structure is varied.

Quotes are fluidly embedded and evidence and analysis are woven together.

6 Prose is clear with correct word choice and some varied sentence structure. Quotes are

embedded. Evidence and analysis are not as smoothly woven together.

5 Prose and word choice are clear, but fairly bland. Most quotes are embedded. Transitions

between evidence and analysis may be choppy.

4 Prose is awkward, choppy or unclear. Word choice or sentence structure is confusing.

Quotes are not embedded.

**Title**

2 Title is original and clearly connected to ideas in the essay.

1 Title states ideas in the essay.

0 Title states the name of the text, assignment, or there is no title.

**Pitfalls: Points will be taken off for:**

* Formatting errors, including citation errors or lack of citations
* Grammar or spelling errors
* Use of 1st and 2nd person pronouns (I, me, my, mine, you, your, yours, we, us, our)
* Not including a correct and complete works cited page

Total\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/30