

Part F: Essay Question (Value 30)

Choose **ONE** of the essay topics from **ONE** of the two categories listed below (Animal Farm or Independent Nonfiction Novel Study) and address the topic in a five-paragraph essay. Complete this section **IN YOUR EXAM BOOKLET**.

A) Animal Farm Options

1. Provide a detailed argument for the three most important morals, lessons and/or truths Orwell presents to his readers in *Animal Farm*.
2. Provide a detailed argument for how the book, *Animal Farm* is an allegory of the Russian Revolution and the years that followed.
3. Provide a detailed argument for which three characters have a pure, sincere nature and add a level of good to the dark mood and tone of *Animal Farm*.
4. Provide a detailed argument for which three characters are the most unlikeable in *Animal Farm*, from a reader's perspective.
5. Provide a detailed argument that discusses how George Orwell effectively portrays Napoleon as Joseph Stalin in *Animal Farm*.

OR

B) Independent Nonfiction Novel Study Options

1. Identify a specific theme from the nonfiction text you read for your independent study and provide three examples from your text that proves the presence of this theme.
2. Identify what you believe to be the author's purpose in writing this piece of literature. Provide three possible purposes and explain how the author accomplished them by referring to specific examples from your text.
3. Identify a character from your independent nonfiction study with whom you identify the most. Provide three specific examples (with details from both your life and the story) that clearly show the connection between you and that character.

ADVICE FOR STUDENTS:

- ✓ **FIRST:** Develop and commit to a thesis. Then, generate an outline for yourself (pre-writing strategy done prior to the exam during class time).
- ✓ **SECOND:** Create at least 5 paragraphs (double spaced): an introduction, 3 paragraphs for the body, and a conclusion.
- ✓ **THIRD:** Revise for content and edit for mechanics (post-writing strategy). Complete a good copy if time permits.
- ✓ **REFER TO THE ATTACHED MARKING RUBRIC (Page 8 of exam) TO REVIEW HOW THIS ESSAY WILL BE EVALUATED**

A CHECKLIST FOR ESSAY WRITING:

- Did you plan your essay by creating an outline to follow?
- Did you remember to spice up your introduction in a way that would make it interesting?
- Did you stay on topic with the simple goal of arguing your thesis?
- Did you use fitting quotations (direct and indirect ones) to support your arguments?
- For every main point presented, did you use several convincing pieces of evidence?
- Did you use formal language, avoiding contractions and forms of slang?
- Furthermore, did you avoid summarizing what happened in the novella?
- Did you stick with the same tense throughout the entire essay?
- Did you underline the title of the novel?
- Did you include a catchy title for the essay?
- Does the concluding paragraph wrap things up and bring the essay full circle, (back to your thesis)?
- Did you proof-read, edit and revise with the help of a dictionary and a thesaurus?

Content (Value 10)

- Arguments are insightful and show depth of thinking.
- Ideas are fully elaborated
- Supporting evidence is relevant to the chosen argument.
- Evidence provides well-chosen, direct references from the novel.

Organization (Value 5)

- Introduction hooks the reader and provides a clear thesis statement.
- Transition statements allow seamless movement between essay's main points.
- The focus is clear and effective throughout the entire essay.
- Presentation of supporting evidence is exceptionally clear and thorough, with details that are explicit and vivid.
- The sequence of ideas and supporting evidence is effective.
- Conclusion summarizes the essay's main points.

Grammar/Sentence Structure/Word Choice/Tone (Value 10)

- Sentences are complete and vary in length and structure.
- All words are spelled correctly.
- Essay contains no errors in English usage, grammar, or punctuation.
- Essay contains no errors in capitalization.
- Word choice is precise and accurate.
- Tone is appropriate to a formal essay.

Planning/Editing (Value 5)

- There is ample evidence that the editing checklist has been used.
- Outline and preparation is extensive and detailed.

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