

Authentic Task #7

Content Standard I. D. 1: Explain the theme in a text

Content Standard I. D. 2: Analyze how literary devices (such as indirect characterization, symbol, and conflict) contribute to a text's theme

Content Standard I. A. 7: Identify a tragic flaw in a tragic hero and analyze how it led to his/her downfall

Content Standard I. E. 1: Writes a clear topic sentence or thesis statement

Content Standard I. E. 2: Employs a pattern of organization in written work

Content Standard I. E. 3: Provides specific evidence (such as direct quotations) for claims

Content Standard I. E. 4: Analyzes evidence effectively

Content Standard I. E. 5: Explains clearly how the evidence supports the claim

Content Standard I. E. 6: Employs transitions to make connections among ideas

Content Standard I. E. 7: Uses appropriate writing formats: formal letter, diary, essay

Content Standard I. E. 9: Uses a variety of sentence structures avoiding fragments and run-on sentences

Content Standard I. E. 10: Demonstrates effective paragraph structure

Content Standard I. E. 11: Uses MLA format for in-text documentation and Works Cited

Content Standard I. E. 12: Demonstrates correct grammar, usage, and mechanics

Task: You have been asked to write an essay for a forthcoming book which examines why some leaders fail. As a literary scholar, you have decided to use your knowledge of the leaders portrayed in *The Tragedy of Julius Caesar* for your essay. In your essay you need to do the following:

- Identify the most serious tragic flaw in Julius Caesar, Brutus, or Cassius.
- Analyze how the tragic flaw led to the character's downfall.
- Evaluate the character's decisions based on his characterization and tragic flaw.
- Explain the theme that the life and death of your tragic hero creates.

Your essay should be a minimum of five paragraphs in length and should include at least two direct passages from the text in each body paragraph, with in-text documentation and a Works Cited page.

Criteria:

- Correctly identifies a tragic flaw for the character chosen
- Analyzes the tragic flaw and explains how it caused the character's downfall
- Explains a theme created by the tragic hero's life and death
- Includes a clear thesis statement
- Uses a logical organizational pattern in the essay
- Provides specific evidence (direct quotations) to support claims
- Analyzes evidence
- Explains how evidence supports claim
- Includes transitions among paragraphs
- Uses a variety of sentence structures
- Demonstrates proper paragraph format
- Include in-text documentation and a Works Cited page
- Uses correct grammar, usage, and mechanics throughout the essay

Tragic Hero Analysis Essay
Rubric

Criteria:	Excellent 4-5 points	Good 2-3 points	Poor 0-1 point
<u>Content</u> Correctly identifies the tragic flaw of the character	Tragic flaw is correctly identified for the character		Tragic flaw is incorrectly identified for the character
Analyzes the effect of the tragic flaw on the character X2	Analysis of tragic flaw is thorough and insightful	The effect of the tragic flaw on the character is analyzed	Analysis of the tragic flaw is misguided or incomplete
Explains how the tragic flaw led to the character's downfall X2	Explanation is well-developed and shows clear relationship between the flaw and the downfall of the character	Explanation shows relationship between the tragic flaw and the character's downfall	Explanation does not show relationship between the tragic flaw and the character's downfall, or explanation is missing
Identifies and explains a theme created by the tragic hero X2	Theme is clearly identified and thoroughly explained	Theme is identified and explained	Theme is not identified, or if identified, it is insufficiently explained
<u>Format</u> Includes a clear thesis statement	Thesis statement is clear and gives focus to the essay	Thesis statement is evident	Thesis statement is unclear or missing
Demonstrates a logical pattern of organization throughout the essay	Essay is meticulously organized throughout	Essay demonstrates an organizational pattern	Essay has little to no organization
Includes two direct quotation in each body paragraph X2	Every body paragraph includes two or more quotations from the text	Every body paragraph includes quotations from the text	Quotations not used in every body paragraph

Includes transitions among ideas	Transitions are smooth and logical	Transitions are evident	Transitions are missing or unclear
Uses a variety of sentence structures avoiding fragments and run-on sentences	Excellent variety of sentence structures, no fragments or run-ons	Some variety of sentence structures, few if any fragments or run-ons	Little sentence variety, includes fragments and run-ons
Uses good paragraph structure	Paragraph structure is sound and enhances overall organization	Essay is written in paragraph form	Essay does not use proper paragraphing
Documents all quotations with MLA format for in-text documentation and Works Cited X2	All quotations are correctly documented with in-text documentation & Works Cited	All quotations are documented with in-text documentation & Works Cited, a few minor flaws in format possible	Some or all quotations are undocumented, or format is incorrect
Demonstrates correct grammar, usage & mechanics throughout the essay	No distracting errors in grammar, usage & mechanics	A few minor errors in grammar, usage, & mechanics	Errors in grammar, usage, & mechanics are numerous and distracting

Comments:

Total _____/85