

## LIT CIRCLE BOOK - RESPONSE TO LITERATURE ESSAY

Write a five paragraph essay in which you present your understanding of the main character and the overall meaning of your book. Support your ideas with examples and/or evidence from the text. Your essay must include the following:

Introduction:

- background information about your book: title of the novel, author's name, genre, story's setting, name of the main character, the problem or conflict the character is facing, and a *brief* plot summary
- a thesis statement that states the main idea of your essay

Three Body Paragraphs:

- one paragraph that describes what the character is like at the beginning of the novel with evidence from the text to support your position
- two paragraphs describing two important events (one in each paragraph) that had a significant effect on the character and caused him or her to change

Conclusion:

- summary sentence that restates the thesis in a new way
- description of how the main character has changed by the end of the story. What has the character learned about him or herself or about life during the story?
- discussion of the theme of the story: What is the author trying to say to us about life and the world around us?

Your writing will be evaluated on how well you write an essay that:

- shows your understanding of the author's message and your insight into the characters and ideas presented in the text
- is organized around clear ideas and/or images from the story
- justifies your interpretation by giving examples and citing evidence from the text
- shows grade level proficiency in spelling, punctuation, grammar, sentence structure, and use of transitional words and phrases