***Huck Finn* Test**

**Essay Question #1 (30 points)**

**Shepard Academy Freshman Block**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **CATEGORY**  | Exceeds Expectations | Meets Expectations  | Approaches Expectations | Below Expectations |
| **Thesis** | The author’s thesis statement is clear, succinct, and states their opinion early in the essay.**10** | A thesis is present. It may be somewhat unclear or ramble. **8.5** | There is a main idea but it is hard to identify and is not stated in one or two sentences. It may be incomplete or ramble. **7.5** | Thesis statement is not easily identifiable or even present. The author’s argument does not take a clear stance. **6-0** |
| **Support for Topic**  | Clear evidence and examples from the text thoroughly support the author’s main idea. The answer cannot be improved upon. **10** | Supporting details and information are relevant but do not support the response as thoroughly; one portion of the response may lack support. **8.5** | Supporting details and information are relevant, but several portions of the response are unsupported by the text. **7.5** | Supporting details and information are typically unclear or not related to the topic. Little to no textual evidence is cited. **6-0** |
| **Focus**  | The essay and thesis are clearly related without superfluous or distracting information. The organization helps the reader to understand the author’s ideas. **5** | The essay and thesis are clearly related with perhaps a few extraneous or unconnected points. Some parts may ramble or skip around. **4.25** | The essay rambles or skips around and is somewhat confusing. Some ideas are not clearly related to the main idea.**3.75** | The essay is not clear or focused. The evidence is not very connected to the thesis. Organization seriously hinders reading. **2-0** |
| **Writing Conventions** **(grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, complete sentences)** | Grammar is very strong and readable; up to 3 mistakes that may distract the reader.**5** | Grammar is comprehensible and does not hinder the reader; 5 or fewer distracting errors.**4.25** | Grammar is poor enough to hinder comprehension, but the author’s meaning is still relatively clear; 7 or more distracting errors**3.75** | Grammar mistakes make the author’s meaning very hard to understand; 8 or more distracting errors. **2-0** |

**Total: / 30**

**Notes:**

***Huck Finn* Test**

**Essay Question #2 (30 points)**

**Shepard Academy Freshman Block**

|  |  |  |  |  |
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| **CATEGORY**  | Exceeds Expectations | Meets Expectations  | Approaches Expectations | Below Expectations |
| **Thesis** | The author’s thesis statement is clear, succinct, and states their opinion early in the essay.**10** | A thesis is present. It may be somewhat unclear or ramble. **8.5** | There is a main idea but it is hard to identify and is not stated in one or two sentences. It may be incomplete or ramble. **7.5** | Thesis statement is not easily identifiable or even present. The author’s argument does not take a clear stance. **6-0** |
| **Support for Topic**  | Clear evidence and examples from the text thoroughly support the author’s main idea. The answer cannot be improved upon. **10** | Supporting details and information are relevant but do not support the response as thoroughly; one portion of the response may lack support. **8.5** | Supporting details and information are relevant, but several portions of the response are unsupported by the text. **7.5** | Supporting details and information are typically unclear or not related to the topic. Little to no textual evidence is cited. **6-0** |
| **Focus**  | The essay and thesis are clearly related without superfluous or distracting information. The organization helps the reader to understand the author’s ideas. **5** | The essay and thesis are clearly related with perhaps a few extraneous or unconnected points. Some parts may ramble or skip around. **4.25** | The essay rambles or skips around and is somewhat confusing. Some ideas are not clearly related to the main idea.**3.75** | The essay is not clear or focused. The evidence is not very connected to the thesis. Organization seriously hinders reading. **2-0** |
| **Writing Conventions** **(grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization, complete sentences)** | Grammar is very strong and readable; up to 3 mistakes that may distract the reader.**5** | Grammar is comprehensible and does not hinder the reader; 5 or fewer distracting errors.**4.25** | Grammar is poor enough to hinder comprehension, but the author’s meaning is still relatively clear; 7 or more distracting errors**3.75** | Grammar mistakes make the author’s meaning very hard to understand; 8 or more distracting errors. **2-0** |

**Total: / 30**

**Notes:**