

Esperanza Rising

Teacher Name: **Mr. Stern**

Student Name: _____

CATEGORY	4	3	2	1
Theme (x 2)	Shows a thorough understanding of a meaningful theme of the novel by concisely identifying a message that could extend beyond this book.	Shows an understanding of a meaningful theme of the novel by concisely identifying a message central to this book.	Identifies a message, though it may not be central to the book, or be unclearly articulated.	Neglects to clearly identify a message of the book.
Focus	Maintains consistent focus on controlling idea throughout the entire essay: <i>all evidence and explanations support the message identified in the introduction.</i>	Almost all evidence and explanations support the message identified in the intro	Some evidence / explanations don't support the initial message.	Few or no explanations support the initial message.
Explain Evidence (x 2)	Clearly explains evidence chosen to support theme: <i>the meaning of all citations is correctly and thoroughly described.</i>	Explains evidence chosen to support theme: <i>the meaning of most citations is correctly described; 1 or 2 may need a bit more explanation.</i>	The meaning of some citations is correctly described, but they need more explanation.	Chosen evidence is unclearly or incorrectly explained.
Connect Evidence (x 2)	Clearly and logically connects each cited quote to the theme established in first paragraph.	<i>Most</i> citations support the theme of the intro, OR all do, but connection lacks some clarity.	<i>Few</i> citations clearly support the theme of the intro.	No citations clearly support the theme of the intro.
Organization	Features a clear introduction with a controlling idea, body paragraphs which support the controlling idea, and a conclusion which restates and summarizes the assertions of the introduction.	One of the essay parts (intro, body, or conclusion) is unclear or incomplete.	Two of the essay parts are unclear, incomplete, or missing.	All parts are either unclear, incomplete or missing.
Conventions	Nearly no grammatical, punctuation or spelling errors.	Grammatical, punctuation or spelling errors do not obscure the author's meaning.	Grammatical, punctuation or spelling errors at times obscure the author's meaning.	Many grammatical, punctuation or spelling errors make the author's meaning unclear.