**Explanatory Essay**

**Assignment**: You will investigate an idea, evaluate evidence, expound on the idea, and set forth an argument concerning that idea in a clear and concise manner using the prompt below.

*Think of this essay as a conversation or debate with a classmate. If I were to discuss the cause of the Great Depression and its current effect on those who lived through the tumultuous time, there would be a beginning, middle, and end to the conversation. In fact, if I were to end the exposition in the middle of my second point, questions would come up concerning the current effects on those who lived through the Depression. Therefore, the expository essay must be complete, and logically so, leaving no doubt as to its intent or argument.*

-The essay should be between 1 ½ - 3 pages double-spaced

- MLA guidelines required

- 6 traits of writing are: ideas, organization, voice, word choice, fluency, and conventions

**Your essay should have:**

1. An introductory paragraph with a thesis statement.

2. Three (or more) body paragraphs giving evidence to support the thesis.

3. A conclusion that does not simply restate the thesis, but readdresses it in light of the evidence provided in the body paragraphs.

**Prompt:**

*Explain how has reading this book helped you to find out more about your own identity? Explain OR describe what Charlie’s identity is by the end of our reading and how it evolves AND/OR devolves throughout the book. Make a prediction about how the novel will end and where Charlie will end up.*

Bring 3 copies of the rough draft on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for revision. If you are absent or you don’t have it with you, you will receive no credit. There is no make-up for this assignment. If you know you will be absent, you need to send the essay with someone.

The final due date is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . I will not accept the excuse that your computer broke down, it froze, or the printer did not work. You will lose 50% if not turned in on time. No excuses.

**Explanatory Essay Rubric**

**Ideas**

Narrowed topic on the theme 1 2 3 4 5

Claims in individual body paragraphs 1 2 3 4 5

Evidence 1 2 3 4 5

Relevant facts 1 2 3 4 5

Sufficient facts 1 2 3 4 5

Warrant/So what? 1 2 3 4 5

Total \_\_\_\_\_/50

**Organization**

Introduction/thesis paragraph 1 2 3 4 5

***Body paragraphs:***

* Claim 1 2 3 4 5
* Evidence 1 2 3 4 5
* Warrant 1 2 3 4 5

***Transitions:***

* between ideas 1 2 3 4 5
* between paragraphs 1 2 3 4 5

Conclusion 1 2 3 4 5

Overall cohesion and organization 1 2 3 4 5

Total \_\_\_\_\_/50

**Voice**

***Word Choice:***

* formal tone 1 2 3
* precise language 1 2 3
* appropriate language 1 2 3

***Sentence Fluency:***

* Cohesive sentence fluency 1 2 3
* Varied Sentence structure 1 2 3

Total \_\_\_\_\_/15

**Conventions**

MLA 1 2 3 4 5

Parallel structure 1 2 3 4 5

Grammar does not interfere with meaning 1 2 3 4 5

Total \_\_\_\_\_/15

**Grand Total \_\_\_\_\_/100**