

Name: _____ Period: _____

Essay #3: Society and Self

Directions: For this essay, you will write a **two-page argumentative essay** on one of the following prompt options. In doing so, you will critically analyze one or more of the novels read this quarter (*Night*, *The Hiding Place*, and/or *Fahrenheit 451*). In your essay, you will incorporate direct quotes from the text into your essay, using APA format, and you will create a presentation of 2-5 minutes about your argument.

Prompt Options (CHOOSE ONE):

- How does firmitas preserve a society or lead to degradation of society? (How could the persistent pursuit of making everything easier eventually lead a society to decay? Are there ways that firmitas could preserve a well functioning society?).
- What is the power of mob mentality as seen in *Fahrenheit 451* and in the Holocaust memoirs read in class? What impact can this mentality have on a society?
- Is being ignorant or being a bystander worse?/Is ignoring signs that atrocities are occurring or knowing they are occurring and doing nothing worse?
- On several occasions, Corrie wrestles with whether it is morally permissible to lie in order to mislead someone who would use the truth to do evil. Make an argument either for or against the act of lying to preserve a greater good.
- Have your own question? Get it approved.

Specifics:

- The essay must use **APA style**, include a cover page, and include a references page.
- The essay must be **two pages of content** (this EXCLUDES the cover page and references page). This is the minimum and the maximum requirement (you can not exceed two pages of content, and you must write more than 1.5 pages).
- The essay must include **at least three, well-developed paragraphs**.
- The essay must include **at least two direct quotes** from the novels.
- All quotes must be followed by in-text citations, for example: (Bradbury, 1953, p.54).
- You will present your argument to the class. We will complete presentations on 12/11 and 12/12 in class. You can choose to present with or without a visual aid (like Google Slides).

Process Work (this will be a separate grade from your final draft essay score)

Writing Assignment	Due Date	Completed On Time?
Draft/Working Thesis Statement	11/26 (end of class)	
Body Paragraph(s) *Outline or draft paragraphs	12/2 (end of class)	
Rough Draft *Including intro. & conclusion paragraphs	12/3 or 12/4 Block Day (end of class)	
Writing Revisions (proof of revised paragraph)	12/8 (end of class)	
Final Draft - Proof of Submission	12/9 at 11:59pm	
	Total Points	/50

Essay Grading Rubric

	20 Points <i>Exceeds</i>	15-19 Points <i>Meets</i>	9-14 Points <i>Approaches</i>	0-8 Points <i>Falls Far Below</i>
Thesis: An open, evaluative thesis that seeks to persuade its audience.	A clear, open thesis evaluates a concept or argument; thesis is open enough to allow for elaboration throughout the paper.	A clear, open thesis has a persuasive purpose; thesis allows for elaboration.	The thesis is clear but does not allow for much elaboration. There is an attempt at a persuasive purpose.	The thesis isn't clear, doesn't allow for elaboration, and/or is not persuasive.
Arrangement: Structure of essay builds logically and persuasively; essay demonstrates how supporting ideas relate to each other and the thesis.	The arrangement of the essay is always proper (introduction, body, conclusion). The organization of the paragraphs is proper (topic sentence, evidence, explanation, conclusion/transition).	The arrangement of the essay is usually proper (introduction, body, conclusion). The organization of the paragraphs is usually proper (topic sentence, evidence, explanation, conclusion/transition).	The arrangement of the essay is only sometimes proper (introduction, body, conclusion). The organization of the paragraphs is only sometimes proper (topic sentence, evidence, explanation, conclusion/transition). The organization is unclear.	The arrangement of the essay is unrecognizable. The organization of the paragraphs is unrecognizable. The organization is unclear and detracts from the understanding of the essay.
Evidence: At least two pieces of evidence are well-selected, integrated, and cited in APA format.	At least two pieces of evidence are well-selected (on topic, relevant for their argument) and quoted correctly. The quotes are properly integrated and cited in APA format.	There are two pieces of evidence that are well-selected but include minor errors with integration OR citations in APA format.	There is only one piece of evidence OR the essay is lacking proper integrations and citations in APA format for two quotes.	The essay lacks a thorough attempt at including well-selected evidence from the text.
Logic/Analysis: Logic of the argument follows a formal structure, draws directly from selected evidence, and reasonably supports a student's thesis.	Analysis always follows a strong logical structure to incorporate the evidence and support the overall thesis.	Analysis follows a logical structure to incorporate the evidence and support the overall thesis.	Analysis uses logic and incorporates evidence, but connection to overall thesis may not be clear.	Analysis is not logical AND/OR does not incorporate evidence.
Style: Only 1-2 grammatical errors. At least three intentional uses of style.	No more than 1-2 types of grammatical errors in the essay. At least two intentional uses of style throughout the essay (highlighted), such as active voice, strong verbs, varied sentence structures, and/or parallel structure.	3-5 types of grammatical errors but the paper is still readable. One intentional use of style.	6+ types of grammatical errors but the paper is still readable. One intentional use of style.	Poor grammar makes the essay nearly unreadable; no intentional use of style.

Essay Rubric Total: ____ / 100 possible points for final essay rubric

Presentation:

- ☐ Professional presentation of argument to the class (2-5 minutes in length) ____/20 points
- ☐ Professionalism during presentations (professionally dressed; strong posture; no fidgeting or unnecessary movement; well-prepared, no filler words, good volume, tone, and pacing; maintain eye contact with only brief references to notes) ____/20 points
- ☐ Asks at least one question during another presentation ____/10 points

Presentation Rubric Total: ____ / 50 possible points for presentation

Essay #3 Total (essay + presentation): ____ / 150 total points

Revision Checklist (to guide your work)

- ☐ APA Title Page (Title, Name, School, Class, Teacher Name, Date)
- ☐ Reference Page (Smith, J. (Date). *Title*. Publisher.)

CONTENTS

- ☐ Introduction paragraph
 - ☐ Hook
 - ☐ Bridge (author name(s) and book title(s))
 - ☐ Thesis statement (that answers the prompt)
- ☐ Body paragraph(s)
 - ☐ Topic Sentences
 - ☐ Quotes from the text (you need at least two in your paper) that are integrated correctly
 - ☐ Two sentences of analysis (at least) for each quote
 - ☐ At least one counterclaim (address a different stance on the topic & prove it wrong)
- ☐ Conclusion paragraph
 - ☐ Restated thesis statement
 - ☐ So what? question

STYLE

- ☐ Strong verbs
- ☐ -ly adverbs
- ☐ Strong adjectives
- ☐ Sentence Opener: Dependent clause (highlight in your paper)
- ☐ Sentence Opener: Preposition (highlight in your paper)
- ☐ Sentence Opener: -ly adverb (highlight in your paper)

MECHANICS

- ☐ Proper capitalization
- ☐ End marks and punctuation
- ☐ Spelling
- ☐ Complete sentences
- ☐ Third person POV only
- ☐ No Contractions

PRESENTATION

- ☐ Intro to your claim
- ☐ Quotes that support your argument
- ☐ An overview of your reasoning and counterclaim/rebuttal
- ☐ Conclusion/call to action
- ☐ You must ask a question once during the class presentations
- ☐ If you do choose to create a presentation, be sure to “chunk” the information and not just copy and paste full paragraphs onto the slides.