

AP Literature and Composition  
Miss Joschak  
Spring 2015  
Fourth Quarter

#### **Q4 Out-Of-Class Essay: Supplemental Reading “The Search for Identity”**

*Each of these will be checked/collected for a grade:*

An outline or chart of the prompt is due in class on Monday, April 27th.

An outline of your paper is due in class on Friday, May 8th.

A rough draft of your paper is due in class on Friday, May 15th.

Your final draft is due in class on Friday, May 22nd.

*Late papers will receive 80% of the earned grade.*

\*You **must** schedule a SPARTA lunch appointment to conference over the rough draft of your paper during the week of May 18th.\*

#### *Requirements, Guidelines, and Formatting:*

- Typed **and** printed out - Essays that are not handed in as a hard copy will be deducted 5 points.
- Double-spaced
- 12 point, Times New Roman font
- 1' margins
- 4-5 pages minimum
- MLA formatting for header and page numbers, etc. - If you need assistance with MLA formatting, come to me or go to <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>.
- Must contain textual support/evidence (direct quotes) - Essays with no textual support will automatically earn a 50%.
- Direct quotes must be cited using MLA format for in-text citations - Essays with no in-text citations will automatically earn a 0 for plagiarism.
- Refer to the quarter's theme and essential questions when planning and writing your essay.

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#### **Prompt:**

Novels and plays often depict characters caught between colliding cultures -- national, regional, ethnic, religious, institutional, etc. Such collisions can call a character's sense of identity into question. Select a novel or play in which a character responds to such a cultural collision. Then write a well-organized essay in which you describe the character's response and analyze/explain its relevance to the work as a whole. **Do not summarize the plot.**

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This quarter's essential questions:

- How do we form and shape our identities?
- What turning points determine our individual pathways to adulthood?
- How are we shaped by our ethnicity, gender, and experiences?
- What are the essential ingredients for a successful life journey?
- In a culture where we are bombarded with ideas and images of "what we should be," how does one form an identity that remains true and authentic for her/himself?
- In a culture where we are bombarded with other people trying to define us, how do we make decisions for ourselves?

Your essay should contain the following:

- Discussion/explanation of character traits and development, characterization
- A strong, clear thesis
- Specific details from text to support your argument

Your essay should *avoid* the following:

- Summary of the plot
- Unnecessary/non-supportive details
- Lack of connection to prompt
- Repetitiveness
- 1st and 2nd pronouns