

Name: _____

Date: _____

English II

Period: _____

ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST

Open-Ended Response Assignment

[CCSELA-LiteracyRL.11-12.1](#) Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text, including determining where the text leaves matters uncertain.

[CCSELA-LiteracyRL.11-12.3](#) Analyze the impact of the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a story or drama (e.g., where a story is set, how the action is ordered, how the characters are introduced and developed).

[CCSELA-LiteracyW.11-12.2](#) Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

[CCSELA-LiteracyW.11-12.5](#) Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach, focusing on addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and audience. (Editing for conventions should demonstrate command of Language standards 1–3 up to and including grades 11–12.)

- ✍ When completing an open-ended response you must ACE the prompt.
- ✍ In our first benchmarks, many students either cited examples from the text and did not explain their significance, or they gave elaboration on their answer without direct citations from the text.
- ✍ In order to earn a proficient or advanced score on your constructed response, you must answer the question, use DIRECT examples from the text, and then EXPLAIN and ELABORATE on their significance to your answer.

Answer the question by restating the prompt.

Cite examples DIRECTLY from the text (it is the best way to know that you have them in there!)

Explain and Elaborate on how your examples back up your answer.

Cuckoo's Nest Prompts

1. How are the attitudes towards women and sex throughout the book established through the author's use of imagery/symbolism? Use at least two examples from the text.
 - What kinds of images of women do we get? Is this book sexist? How does it reflect contemporary (1964) attitudes towards women?
2. Analyze the symbolic make-up of MCMurphy's character. Use at least two examples from the text.
 - Add up all the stereotypes that go into his creation. How does he fit the American image of masculinity? Explore how MCMurphy relates to each separate person on the ward. How is his reaction to Billy different from his reaction to the other men, like Cheswick, etc.? What do his responses to the men tell us about him? What do they tell us about the other men?
3. Examine the imagery surrounding the bird's nest. Use at least two examples from the text.
 - What is she symbolic of? Thematically, how is she opposed to MCMurphy?

Step 1:

Answer the question by restating the prompt.

Choose a prompt that you would like to write about and compose a short thesis statement (what you are going to prove while writing your response – the argument you are making).

Step 2 & 3:

Cite examples DIRECTLY from the text (it is the best way to know that you have them in there!)

Explain and Elaborate on how your examples back up your answer.

Example DIRECTLY from the text

Explain and Elaborate

(use back or another sheet of paper, if needed)