DCE – Character Essay Rubric

1. _____/10 THESIS STATEMENT/INTRO PARAGRAPH

10 – 9	Thesis is clear, arguable, rich, original, contains active premise, anchors essay.
8 - 7	Thesis is clear, arguable, anchors essay.
6 – 5	Thesis is unclear.

2. _____/30 IDEAS/ANALYSIS

10 – 9	Strong developed ideas with rich details; central thesis is strongly supported with analysis; exceptionally clear throughout. Shows deep understanding of author's intent and purpose. Essay depicts character in initial stage, shows agents of change, then analyzes character in final stage. All three stages of development are clearly identified and analyzed.
8 – 7	Developed ideas with effective details; thesis supported with analysis. Strong understanding of author's intent and purpose.
6 – 5	Simple main ideas. Little support for thesis.

3. _____/15 ORGANIZATION/SUPPORT

10 – 9	Development enhances ideas. Strong examples, quotes specific details/evidence drawn from text. Topic sentences strongly linked to thesis.
8 – 7	Organization and structure are strong. Claims are generally supported by evidence from the text. Topic sentences somewhat linked to thesis.
6 – 5	Some organization. Some evidence from text.

4. _____/15 STYLE/VOCABULARY

10 – 9	Extensive variation in sentence structure. Strong mix of long and short sentences. Rich, broad, powerful range of words. Strong sense of audience. Prose sparkles.
8 – 7	Some sentence variation. Words are interesting and clear.
6 – 5	Simple sentences. Appropriate word choice. Pedestrian prose.

5. _____/20 CONCLUSION

10 – 9	Conclusion **shows strong take-away from literature. Makes strong real-world connections**. Conclusion is able to extend thoughts and ideas developed in essay.
8 – 7	Conclusion offers some take-away from literature work. Conclusion is somewhat able to extend thoughts and ideas developed in the essay.
6 – 5	Simplistic conclusion.

6. _____/10 MECHANICS/GRAMMAR/SPELLING/MLA FORMAT

10 – 9	Exceptional control of English conventions, spelling, grammar.
8 – 7	Effective use of English conventions. Some errors.
6 – 5	Many errors.

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