

Unit 1: *Anthem* Essay

Choose one of the following prompts from which to create a well-written, three-chunk essay:

1. Ayn Rand's *Anthem* creates a dark world of the future where individualism is destroyed. She "sings her anthem" through Equality and his struggles to leave the collective "we" and discover himself. Discuss two specific places in the novel that could be related to the "anthem" of objectivism.

2. In Ayn Rand's *Anthem*, candles provide the only source of light in the world in which Equality lives. This is a literal source of light; a figurative symbol of light is knowledge. Discuss how the motif of light of both kinds is used throughout the novel.

3. Discuss the use of names in *Anthem*, specifically how the use changes throughout the novel in relationship to Equality's movement from the collectivist environment of the city in which he lives to the objectivist view at the end of the novel.

4. The novel ends with one word, EGO. Why is this word important in the overall context of the novel? In what way does ego play a large roll (or cease to exist) in the book?

EXPECTED CONTENT:

- CLEAR purpose—the reader is aware of the thesis statement, knows WHY you are proving this, and sees larger connections beyond the book (awareness of author purpose)
- RELEVANT details—demonstrates read and understood the novel and can incorporate evidence from the novel and other readings to support your thesis.
- EFFECTIVE COMMENTARY that explains the **relevancy** of the details provided
- SHOWS clear awareness of understanding effective organization of writing
- FREE OF ERRORS and double-spaced, times new roman 12 font, 1 inch margins

Process required:

_____/25 Pre-write that shows thought and preliminary organization of ideas

_____/25 Rough draft 1

_____/15 Peer reading 1

_____/15 Typed rough draft 2

_____/15 Peer conference 2

_____/75 Final typed draft

Essay Rubric

Above Standard	At Standard	Below Standard
One-sentence, arguable thesis that takes a risk; clearly stated or implied	One-sentence, arguable thesis; directly stated or somewhat implied	Unclear thesis
Uses a variety of aptly chosen details including detail(s) from <i>Anthem</i>	Uses a variety of details that support the thesis including detail(s) from <i>Anthem</i>	Details lacking; or writer does not cite <i>Anthem</i> ; or details do not connect to the thesis
Intro grabs reader's attention, clearly and effectively introducing the topic	Intro clearly introduces the topic and keeps the reader somewhat interested in reading on	Intro is not enticing; reader is confused and or disinterested in reading on
Writer smoothly and creatively transitions from topic to topic	Writer attempts to transition from topic to topic, though some transitions may be predictable	Transitions between topics are missing or confusing
Conclusion effectively ends the paper but also leaves the reader with something to think about	Conclusion brings paper to a close, summarizing and attempting to leave the reader with something to ponder	Conclusion does not effectively bring paper to end
The paper has an easy flow and rhythm. It is easy to read aloud.	The text moves along efficiently, but lacks rhythm and grace. It may sound technical or mechanical instead of pleasant and musical.	The paper is difficult to follow or read aloud.
Spelling, comma placement, grammar are correct; very little editing needed	Spelling, comma placement, grammar are usually correct; a few mistakes are evident here and there	Paper doesn't appear to have been edited for spelling, comma placement or grammar.

GradeCam ID

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