Mrs. Muldoon Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
English 9A

 Journal Reflection over the Fourth Marking Period in *Speak*

**Directions:** Chose one of the following prompts and write AT LEAST TWO paragraphs in response.

Remember to: use the stoplight paragraph format
 use vivid and specific word choice (NO “thing” “good” “stuff” “a lot” “kind of”)
 create long *and* short sentences (Do NOT start a sentence with “it.”)

*You will be graded on:* the six traits of writing (organization, ideas, word choice, sentence
 fluency, conventions, voice) as well the accuracy of the information included.
 This is worth 30 summative points.



**Option 1:**While reading *Speak,* you have been sticky-noting the places where mirrors and mouths appear. Analyze these scenes, specifically focusing on Melinda’s environment and her inner thoughts. (Creating a T-chart to organize this information might be helpful.) How is Anderson using these motifs to create a theme? What theme is she developing? (Remember: topic + opinion = theme). Defend your ideas using specific evidence (include page numbers) from the novel.



**Option 2:**Through the novel*,* Melinda struggles with creating a tree that “speaks.” Track the progress of Melinda’s art project in comparison to her depression and struggles during her freshman year. What is this tree a symbol for? How is Anderson using this symbol to create a theme? What theme is she developing? (Remember: topic + opinion = theme). Defend your ideas using specific evidence (include page numbers) from the novel.