**Young Adult Literature Unit: In-Class Summative Essay**

**Directions:** Below are possible prompts for the in-class essay tomorrow. Two options will be on the test. I would recommend outlining your main points and finding the necessary quotes you will need in order to save you time tomorrow. You will be able to use any notes and both books. *Grading:* Your essay should have a short introduction, 2-4 body paragraphs, and a short conclusion.I will be grading your essay primarily on ideas/content and organization (topic sentences, transitions, supporting details). You will only lose points for sentence fluency and conventions (grammar, spelling, punctuation) if there are so many mistakes that it makes your message difficult to understand. This is worth 100 points.

1. Neither Melinda nor Junior have a great start to high school. Both struggle with low self-esteem, and they have vastly different ways of handling this. Compare and contrast the ways both characters were able to finally find a voice or self-acceptance by the end of the novels. Choose at least 3 specific actions the characters took, using at least 1 direct quote in each body paragraph.   
  
2. Both Melinda and Junior feel out-casted at times. How do other people’s expectations and perceptions influence them? (their actions, self-esteem, their goals, etc.) Use at least 1 direct quote in each body paragraph.

3. *Speak* and *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* have both been banned from various middle and high schools. In the first body paragraph, explain why adults may want to ban these books. Then, explain why you think these books should or should not be taught to freshmen. You might consider doing one body paragraph per book, using specific examples. Each paragraph should contain at least 1 direct quote.

4. Choose one theme (topic + what about the topic) both books have in common and prove it using examples from both novels. Use at least 1 direct quote in each paragraph.

5. In what ways did art help both Melinda and Junior find their voice? Explain using specific details from the novels and at least 1 direct quote in each paragraph.

**Young Adult Literature Unit: In-Class Summative Essay**

**Directions:** 1.Open a Google document and title it: Your Name + YA Unit Essay.   
 2. Then share it with me: [kristen.muldoon@bpsne.net](mailto:kristen.muldoon@bpsne.net)  
 3. Make sure to DOUBLE SPACE your essay  
  
 4. Choose ONE of the prompts below. Include a brief introduction and conclusion,   
 but mainly focus on specific and thorough body paragraphs. Remember to embed   
 the direct quotes into a sentence of your own words. And don’t write in 2nd person!   
 (No “you” “your” etc.)  
  
 4. Type away…  
 5. Print your essay and turn it in to me by the end of the class period.   
 6. Return your books to the library at any time!

1. Both Melinda and Junior feel out-casted at times. How do other people’s expectations and perceptions influence them? (their actions, self-esteem, their goals, etc.) Use at least 1 direct quote in each body paragraph.

2. Choose one theme (topic + what about the topic) both books have in common and prove it using examples from both novels. Use at least 1 direct quote in each paragraph.

3. In what ways did art help both Melinda and Junior find their voice? Explain using specific details from the novels and at least 1 direct quote in each paragraph.

