**Ms. McLeod**

**ELA B10**

***The Merchant of Venice***

***-William Shakespeare-***

Date Due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Merchant of Venice Journal!

**Fictionalized Journal Entry**

**Instructions:**

For this assignment, you will assume the voice of Portia, Bassanio, Antonio OR Shylock. In your writing notebook, you will write a journal entry from the point of view of the character that you choose (250 words). Not only will you relate the events occurring in each act, but you will also include the thoughts, feelings, hopes and dreams of each character.

Include when and where you are writing from. Consider your character’s personality, and goals and motivation. Think about the relationships that they have with the other characters in the story. What does your character value? What are his /her impressions of other characters and events in the play?

This is a personal style of writing. You are encouraged to use “I” and write informally, but keep true to character and manner of speaking. You don’t have to write in Shakespearean dialogue, but use proper conventions and punctuation. I encourage you to use literary techniques such as imagery, and figurative language to make your journal entry more vivid and more interesting for your audience to read.

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| **Criteria/Details** | **Little Evidence**  **5** | **Partial Evidence**  **10** | **Sufficient Evidence**  **15** | **Extensive Evidence**  **20** |
| **Maintains Focus** | Even with help you struggle to present a message that is clear and focused. Always keep your main idea in mind and build onto it. | With help your focus is mostly clear and on topic. Spend a little more time developing your character and plot on your own. | You independently maintain your focus throughout. You develop strong character and plot. | Your message is clearly on one topic with a strong characterization and plot that is engaging and suspenseful. |
| **Details relating to personality and values** | You are having trouble providing enough details to support your message. How can you give substance to your journal? Begin by imagining your characters and their thoughts and feelings. What motivates them? What do they see and hear? | With help, you provided some details to support your message. How can you build on your ideas to make your entries be more substantial? Consider impressions, reflections and observations. Imagine you are in the minds of your chosen characters. | You independently use relevant, logical details to support your message. You share impressions, reflections and observations which give insight into the personality and values of your characters. | You have shared engaging and thorough details to support your message. You share multiple aspects of your characters’ inner and outer worlds. This leads to a journal entry that convinces us that we are reading the entry of real characters. |
| **Cues and Conventions of Writing**  **(punctuation, spelling, capitalization, word choice, etc.)** | You are having trouble choosing language that is suitable to your message. Think about how you can make choices for the best communication. Spend time exploring examples of persuasive writing to get ideas. | With help you choose some language that is suitable to your message. Explore new ways to express ideas. Spend time before writing exploring words and phrases that are persuasive. | Your language choices are suitable to your message. You have used language effectively to deliver your point of view. | You intuitively use language choices that add richness, power and clarity to your message. You have taken risks and tried new things! |
| **Effectively uses techniques (imagery and figurative language)** | You need much help to use techniques to add meaning to your message. Use your planning tool to help you include some techniques that will help others understand your intended meaning. Explore the techniques available. | With help you use basic techniques to add meaning to your message. How can you deliver your message using a variety of techniques? Explore new ways to express your ideas. | You effectively use techniques to add meaning to your message and engage your audience in your point of view. | You creatively use multiple techniques to enhance meaning in your message and make your point of view highly engaging and interesting to read. |