**Grading Rubric for this essay**

6. An essay of this caliber fully explains the cause and effect relationship in a convincing manner, taking into account all aspects of the prompt. This explanation is offered clearly and precisely, and reflects intentional organization, contributing to meaning in the piece. The writer makes multiple references to information and supporting details from throughout the play, including all three acts, exemplifying strong, comprehensive understanding and connections of plot events, character motives, and thematic development from the entire work. The writer effectively uses at least three strong direct quotes with clear and relevant explanations in support of main points. Sentence construction and fluency is particularly engaging. Language usage, including word choice, grammar and mechanics, is sophisticated and nearly flawless (small errors do not distract from overall reader interpretation).

5. An essay of this caliber explains the cause and effect relationship in a convincing manner, taking into account all aspects of the prompt. This explanation reflects intentional organization, contributing to meaning in the piece. The writer makes multiple references to information and supporting details from throughout the play, exemplifying understanding and connections of plot events, character motives, and thematic development from the work. The writer effectively uses at least three direct quotes in support of main points, though explanation of these quotes may be limited. Sentence construction and fluency is effective. Language usage, including word choice, grammar and mechanics, is adequate (small errors that minimally distract from overall reader interpretation).

4. An essay of this caliber explains the cause and effect relationship, taking into account many aspects of the prompt. This explanation reflects adequate organization. The writer makes references to information and supporting details from the play, exemplifying moderate understanding and connections of plot events, character motives, and thematic development from the work. The writer uses at least three direct quotes for support of main points, though explanation of these quotes is limited or flawed. Sentence construction and fluency is adequate. Language usage, including word choice, grammar and mechanics sometimes distracts from overall reader interpretation.

3. An essay of this caliber explains the cause and effect relationship somewhat effectively, taking into account some aspects of the prompt. This explanation reflects organization that is somewhat unclear. The writer makes some references to information and supporting details from the play, exemplifying some understanding and connections of plot events, character motives, and thematic development from the work. The writer uses 2-3 direct quotes for support of main points, though explanation of these quotes is quite limited. Sentence construction and fluency is flawed. Language usage, including word choice, grammar and mechanics, is utilitarian (multiple errors that significantly distract from overall reader interpretation).

2. An essay of this caliber explains the cause and effect relationship ineffectively, taking into account few aspects of the prompt. This explanation reflects organization that is unclear. The writer makes minimal references to information and supporting details from the play, exemplifying little understanding and connections of plot events, character motives, and thematic development from the work. The writer uses less than three direct quotes for support of main points, though explanation of these quotes is not included. Sentence construction and fluency is flawed. Language usage, including word choice, grammar and mechanics, is utilitarian (multiple errors that severely distract from overall reader interpretation).

1. An essay of this caliber lacks explanation of the cause and effect relationship, taking into account few aspects of the prompt. This explanation reflects organization that is unclear. The writer makes no sensible references to information and supporting details from the play. The writer uses no direct quotes for support of main points. Sentence construction and fluency is flawed. Language usage, including word choice, grammar and mechanics, is inadequate (multiple errors that severely distract from overall reader interpretation).