**From *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding Literary Response Essay**

Read the following selection from *Lord of the Flies* and complete the writing task that follows. Write an essay in response to the task on a separate sheet of paper.

Jack was standing under a tree about ten yards away. When Roger

opened his eyes and saw him, a darker shadow crept beneath the swarthiness of his skin; but Jack noticed nothing. He was eager, impatient, beckoning, so that Roger went to him.

There was a small pool at the end of the river, dammed back by sand

and full of white water-lilies and needle-like reeds. Here Sam and Eric

were waiting, and Bill. Jack, concealed from the sun, knelt by the pool

and opened the two large leaves that he carried. One of them contained white clay, and the other red. By them lay a stick of charcoal brought

down from the fire. Jack explained to Roger as he worked.

“They don’t smell me. They see me, I think. Something pink, under the

trees.” He smeared on the clay.

“If only I’d some green!”

He turned a half-concealed face up to Roger and answered the incomprehension of his gaze.

“For hunting. Like in the war. You know—dazzle paint. Like things

trying to look like something else—”

He twisted in the urgency of telling. “—like moths on a tree trunk.”

Roger understood and nodded gravely. The twins moved toward Jack

and began to protest timidly about something. Jack waved them away.

“Shut up.” He rubbed the charcoal stick between the patches of red and white on his face.

“No. You two come with me.”

He peered at his reflection and disliked it. He bent down, took up a

double handful of lukewarm water and rubbed the mess from his face.

Freckles and sandy eyebrows appeared.

Roger smiled, unwillingly.

“You don’t half look a mess.”Jack planned his new face. He made one cheek and one eye-socket white, then he rubbed red over the other half of his face and slashed a black bar of charcoal across from right ear to left jaw. He looked in the pool for his reflection, but his breathing troubled the mirror.

“Samneric. Get me a coconut. An empty one.”

He knelt, holding the shell of water. A rounded patch of sunlight fell on

his face and a brightness appeared in the depths of the water. He looked

in astonishment, no longer at himself but at an awesome stranger. He

spilt the water and leapt to his feet, laughing excitedly. Beside the pool

his sinewy body held up a mask that drew their eyes and appalled them.

He began to dance and his laughter became a bloodthirsty snarling. He

capered toward Bill, and the mask was a thing on its own, behind which

Jack hid, liberated from shame and self-consciousness. The face of red

and white and black swung through the air and jigged toward Bill. Bill

started up laughing; then suddenly he fell silent and blundered away

through the bushes. Jack rushed toward the twins.

“The rest are making a line. Come on!”

“But—”

“—we—”

“Come on! I’ll creep up and stab—”

The mask compelled them.

**In this selection William Golding shows how different characters react to wearing disguises. What theme is William Golding trying to convey with the characters’ reaction to painting their faces? Write an essay explaining how Golding uses the characters in the selection to convey his message about disguises. Support your ideas with detailed references to selection.**

***Lord of the Flies* – Biographical Narrative**

Read the following writing task and write an essay in response to it on a separate piece of paper.

Through reading the book *Lord of the Flies* you got to see how civilized British school boys transformed and changed into little savages. Each character’s decisions and actions revealed what kind of person they were deep down inside. Reflect on a particular character that stood out the most to you. Think about how this character changed throughout the book.

Write a composition that focuses on how one of the characters in *Lord of the Flies* changed throughout the book. Explain how the character’s specific decisions, actions, and the events they were involved in caused them to change during the book.

***Lord of the Flies* – Expository Essay**

Read the following writing task and write an essay in response to it on a separate piece of paper.

A symbol is any noun that represents an idea or concept. William Golding uses a variety of symbols throughout *Lord of the Flies* to show how important order and rules are to upholding civilization. Golding uses the conch, fire, Piggy’s glasses, a stick sharpened at both ends, and face paint as important symbols throughout the book. Choose the symbol that you feel is the most important symbol in the book and explain what Golding uses it to show. Make sure you give specific reasons and examples to support your point.

***Lord of the Flies* – Persuasive Essay**

Read the following writing task and write an essay in response to it on a separate piece of paper.

Since the beginning of time human beings have tried to figure out why people do bad things. In the book Lord of the Flies, William Golding attempts to show the “darkness of man’s heart,” or the idea that all human beings are naturally evil or have a natural dark side.

Do you agree or disagree with Golding’s theme that there is darkness in the hearts all human beings? Think about your position on this issue and use specific examples to write an essay persuading the reader that your point is correct.

***Lord of the Flies* – Business Letter**

Read the following writing task and write an essay in response to it on a separate piece of paper.

A business letter is often used to give a company or group information about yourself or an event that you are close to. It is often a first step when applying for a job or for college. It is a way of conveying personal information to a possible employer about your strengths, skills, and experiences.

Pretend you are one of the characters from the book *Lord of the Flies*. Write a letter applying for a job as a Summer Camp Counselor. You can address it to whomever you like, just make sure to follow the business letter format. Be sure to list strengths, skills, and specific experiences that you believe would make you (the character from *Lord of the Flies*) qualified to be a Summer Camp Counselor.