

## *Fences ~ In-Class Essay*

In a well-developed essay, answer one of the following essay prompts. You will be assessed on your ability to answer the **question** accurately with a clear thesis statement; **organize** your thoughts with a clear introduction, body, and conclusion, provide sufficient **evidence** from the text (at least two quotes), and use proper **grammar** and **voice**.

### **Option One**

The epigraph of the play reads:

When the sins of the fathers visit us  
We do not have to play host.  
We can banish them with forgiveness  
As God, in His Largeness and Laws.  
~August Wilson

In what way do each of Troy Maxson's children live out the epigraph? Provide evidence of the the epigraph throughout each of the characters' lives.

### **Option Two**

Discuss the symbolism of the fence in this play. What is August Wilson's message to the audience through this literary device?

### **Option Three**

Baseball is one of the most important parts of Troy Maxson's past. In what way does he use it as an analogy to life, and what message can the reader glean from it?

### **TO PREPARE THIS EVENING**

- Decide which prompt you want to write about and prepare a *brief outline*.
  - No complete sentences
- Gather all the notes you will need. No electronics will be allowed during the testing period.

### **ON THE DAY OF THE ESSAY**

- You will be allowed to have paper, pen, notes, book, and a brief outline on your desk. You will have the whole period to write.
- I will provide Work Cited page and parenthetical documentation guidelines.
- I will also provide a rubric.