Directions: Pick a prompt and write a 3-4 page (double spaced) response paper. As you write you need to remember to include:

* Creative Organization and Structure (introduction, body, and conclusion)
* Quoted Evidence
* Clear Analysis vs. too much summary
* MLA Headers and formatting

Below are the prompts you can choose from:

* In Act IV, Shylock’s exit is pretty short and abrupt. If you could give Shylock one final speech, what would it be? Include the actual speech with consideration of Shakespeare’s language. Then, explain the speech, how and why you created it, etc.
* This is a play that often flirts with the line of comedy and tragedy—in fact, one could argue that there is/are crucial parts of this play where Shakespeare could have made it a tragedy instead. Where do you think this change could take place? And/or why do you think Shakespeare kept it a comedy instead?
* Gender, race, and religion have always created conflicts in Shakespeare’s plays (and in many other literary pieces). Some people argue Shakespeare tries to break down the common clichés and prejudices with the way he portrays his characters. Do you think Shakespeare was challenging the racial lines and barriers (like anti-Semitic, female inequality) of that time? Why or why not?

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **A** | **B** | **C** | **D** |
| I have thoughtful, creative analysis and complete response that addresses the prompt (10pts).  I use thoughtful, well cited and integrated evidence (10pts).  I have thoughtful, creative, and effective organization (10pts).  I have inventive mechanics and no distracting errors (5pts)  I have the appropriate MLA format: 3-4 pages, double-spaced (5pts) | I have solid/appropriate analysis and a complete response that addresses the prompt (8pts)  I use appropriate, clearly cited and integrated evidence (8pts).  I have clear and effective organization (8pts).  I have solid mechanics, and some errors, but they aren’t distracting (4pts).  \*\*\* | I have some analysis, but its basic, surface level, underdeveloped and/or my response may be complete but it does not fully address the prompt (6-7pts).  I use some appropriate and clearly cited evidence, but it is limited and/or had some minor errors (6-7pts).  I have relatively clear organization, but it is limited, cliché, etc. (7pts).  I have basic mechanics and some distracting errors (3pts).  I have most of the MLA format (3pts). | I have little analysis and/or it poor and has lots of misinterpretation and/or it is not complete, and/or it does stay focused on the prompt (0-5pts).  I use very little evidence and/or there are errors, poorly connected, etc. (0-5pts).  I have weak, incomplete, and/or confusing organization (0-5pts).  I have poor mechanics and lots of distracting errors (0-2pts).  I do not follow the MLA format and/or my paper is too short (0-2pts). |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ *Score: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/40pts*

*Comments:*