**THEME question: *The Grapes of Wrath : This is worth 30 points in your Portfolio***

Instructions

Write a Claim Power Paragraph (Topic sentence, evidence + commentary x 3)

What universal theme of human struggle does this character appear to live with? Are they aware or unaware of these struggles they may have?

**You must use quotes from the text to back up your ideas.**

Consider Man vs. Man, Man vs. Himself, Man vs. Society, Man vs. Supernatural, Man vs. Nature

1,2, Ma Joad: Bottom p.99-100 -- Ma’s description and role in the family; Bottom p.229 -231 – Ma’s refusal to let the family split up after one of their vehicles breaks down. p.577 – Ma acknowledges she is the new head of the family.

3,4, Reverend Casey: Middle p. 27-30 – Why Casey quit being a Preacher; Bottom p. 340 – “There’s an army of us…”; p.521-522 – the bean story.

5,6 Tom Joad: Starting half way down the page p. 244-246 -- Tom’s interaction with the One-eyed Man; p. 248 -- Tom’s advice to his brother Al; p. 252 -- When the jackrabbit ran onto the road/ Tom’s reaction; p. 570 -- Tom in the wilderness ‘thinkin.’

7-8 Uncle John: Bottom p.130 – 131 -- Transformation of Uncle John after blaming himself for the death of his wife.); p. 365 -368 – How Uncle John deals with his ‘sin.’

9-10 Rose of Sharon Middle p. 175 – top 178 – How Rose of Sharon relates to her husband Connie, being pregnant, and her role in life; p.579 – 582 – ‘Rose of Sharon stood perfectly still … ‘ - Rose of Sharon’s reaction to the news of Al’s engagement; p.616 – end of book? What was that all about?

Alternatively:

Dust bowl, Fallow Fields, Land of Plenty, and Floods:

The Joads take on nature. What is the role of the natural world in *Grapes of Wrath* and how does it aid and thwart the Joads?

Tom flees Oklahoma only to kill again. What happens to him when he crawls inside that cave and emerges with a message? How do you explain Casey rolling in the grass, the Jehovah Witnesses at Granma’s passing, the Jesus Lovers’ scorn for hug dancing? What is the role of The Supernatural in *Grapes of Wrath*? How is it and is it not like Moses and Exodus?