**Name: Period:**

**Unit 3- Portfolio Essay English 7**

**Sachem Quarterly Grade 7 Assessment Prompt for Unit 3: Inform/Argue**

In an extended response, **explain** the concept of loyalty and **argue** which character’s experiences ***best*** exhibit this quality. You must use details from **both** texts, “A Retrieved Reformation” and “After Twenty Years,” for support.

***Standards:*** *Write informative/explanatory texts to explain a topic and convey ideas, concepts, and information, through the selection, organization, and analysis of relevant content.**(W7.2)*

***Standards:*** *write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant details. (W.7/1)*

**-Loyalty as aTheme in O. Henry’s Short Stories -Essay Format**

**Essay Format**:

* **Introduction:** Define loyalty and explain that this is a theme in O. Henry’s stories.
* **Body 1:** Show how O. Henry portrays the theme of loyalty in “A Retrieved Reformation”
* **Body 2:** Show how O. Henry portrays the theme of loyalty in “After Twenty Years”
* **Conclusion:**  Based on the evidence provided from the short stories, argue which character is more loyal and explain why.

**Be sure to…**

* Use relevant text-based details/evidence (quotes from the texts)
* Explain/Elaborate after each detail/evidence
* Use appropriate transitional words/phrases
* Proofread for proper spelling, grammar and punctuation

**Follow the Format:**

**Introduction: Explain what it means to be loyal to someone or to an idea. Don’t just rely on the dictionary, but explain it in your own terms. Explain that the theme of loyalty is found in O. Henry’s short stories, “A Retrieved Reformation” and “After Twenty Years.”**

*Remember to:*

* Define loyalty.
* Explain that loyalty is a theme in O. Henry’s stories

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| **Define loyalty** (in your own words) |  |
| **Thesis/Claim:** Explain that theme of loyalty is found O.Henry’s short stories  **TAG**- title, author, genre (both stories) | Loyalty is a strong character trait and it is one that the author, O. Henry, uses often in his stories. In the two fictional stories by O. Henry, there are characters that display a sense of loyalty. Jimmy Wells from “After Twenty Years” and Jimmy Valentine from “A Retrieved Reformation” are two of these characters that seem to feel a sense of loyalty |
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**Body #1: Explain how the theme of loyalty is present in “After Twenty Years”**

Source: “After Twenty Years” by O. Henry

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| **Topic Sentence:**  (introduce the text and theme) |  |
| \*Give at least **two** pieces of evidence from *“After* *Twenty Years”* showing the theme of loyalty  \***Explain/elaborate** and **connect** each piece of evidence to the thesis statement |  |
| **Concluding Sentence:**  (restate and wrap up main points) |  |

**Body # 2: Explain how the theme of loyalty is present in “A Retrieved Reformation”**

Source: “A Retrieved Reformation” by O. Henry

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| --- | --- |
| **Topic Sentence**:  (introduce the text and theme) |  |
| \*Give at least **two** pieces of evidence from *“A Retrieved Reformation”* showing the theme of loyalty  \***Explain/elaborate** and **connect** each piece of evidence to the thesis statement |  |
| **Concluding Sentence:**  (restate and wrap up main points) |  |

**Conclusion: From the evidence provided (in the body paragraphs), argue which character is more loyal**

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| --- | --- |
| **Describe/explain** which character is more loyal |  |
| **Concluding statement:** restate thesis/wrap up main points |  |