

Final assessment: The Pearl

## Fifth Period English

## Task

Write a commentary on The Pearl based on a prompt you create.

## California Standards

A response to literature (1) advances a judgment that **demonstrates a comprehensive grasp of significant ideas** in the work; (2) **supports key ideas** and viewpoints **through accurate and detailed references to the text** or to other works; (3) **demonstrates awareness of the author's use of stylistic devices** and an appreciation of the effects created; (4) identifies and **assesses the impact of perceived ambiguities, nuances, and complexities** in the text.

## Rubric

Criteria	Description	Grade Equivalent	Points
<b>Analysis</b>	Paper clearly states a judgment about the prompt and explains and shows why the judgment is true. <b>Argument is strong, clear, and logical.</b> All analysis directly supports the thesis.	36-40 = A 32-35 = B 28-31 = C	____/40
<b>Evidence</b>	Specific evidence from the text ( <b>both quotes and paraphrased examples</b> ) directly supports the analysis. Evidence is <i>comprehensive</i> .	18-20 = A 16-17 = B 14-15 = C	____/20
<b>Organization</b>	Essay is organized as a literary analysis paper.	18-20 = A 16-17 = B 14-15 = C	____/20
<b>Grammar and Mechanics</b>	Essay is free of major mistakes in spelling, grammar, and mechanics. Essay is formatted in MLA style in 12 pt. Times New Roman, double-spacing, and 1-inch margins.	18-20 = A 16-17 = B 14-15 = C	____/20
<b>Final</b>			____/100

Choose concepts from each column. Then convert your prompt to a thesis (a one-sentence summary of your argument). You can also use your own ideas from the reading for your thesis.

“Explain and analyze how Steinbeck uses...

[...characters or devices—choose one, two, or three...]	[...a verb...]	[...a theme or idea.]
...Kino, Juana, the doctor, the priest, the pearl buyers...	...teach a lesson about...	...greed.
...the pearl, Kino’s fist, animals, songs...	...illustrate...	...materialism.
...particular language in the story...	...explain...	...prejudice.
	...explore...	...the role of women.
	...show...	...conflicts between traditional and modern society.

## Example

*Prompt:* Fully explain and analyze how Steinbeck uses various “songs” in The Pearl to show greed.

*Thesis:* Steinbeck uses several “songs” in The Pearl to show greed among the doctor, the priest, and Kino.