***Cyrano de Bergerac***

**Final Essay - Theme**

One of the attributes of fine literature is multiple, arguable themes. ***Theme*** **is the message that the author wants to convey to the reader about a view of the world or human nature.** For this essay, you will write a 5-paragraph essay that addresses one of the themes of *Cyrano de Bergerac.*

Remember, a ***theme*** is more than one word. A ***topic*** is one word. For your essay, you will choose one of the topics listed below to argue the message associated with that topic:

* Appearances/Physical Beauty
* Identity
* Love
* Chivalry
* Loyalty
* Honor/Courage
* Cunning/Cleverness
* Deceit/Lies

The ***theme*** in a literary work can be displayed through ***characters, plot, conflict, or symbols.*** Your body paragraphs will address how the author conveys the theme of the play.

***Expectations:***

* 5 paragraphs
* MLA Format
  + Times New Roman, 12 pt.
  + Double spaced
  + In-text citations
  + Heading & page numbers
  + Works Cited
* Textual evidence

***ROUGH DRAFT DUE:* Thursday, November 16**

***FINAL DRAFT DUE:* Tuesday, November 20**

**Essay Planning**

Use the map below to help you plan your essay:

**Topic:**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Theme Statement:**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***How does Rostand convey this theme?***

Below, list examples of how the theme is conveyed. At least one of your examples for each category needs to be a direct quote. In your essay, you will explain each of these examples.

1. 1. 1.
2. 2. 2.

**Thesis Statement**

The ***thesis statement*** is the “roadmap” for your essay. Your thesis statement must address the theme you are arguing and how the author portrays the theme in the play. Your thesis should be **ONE SENTENCE** and be written in **THIRD PERSON.**

**Sentence Frames**

Rostand \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the theme \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(active verb) (theme statement)

through \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

(reason #1)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

(reason #2)

and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

(reason #3)

**My Thesis Statement:**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**Essay Outline**

1. **Introduction:**
   1. *Hook:* grab your audience’s attention with something other than a question.
   2. *Background information:* introduce the title, genre, author, and a brief summary of the novel. This shouldn’t be more than 3-4 sentences.
   3. *Thesis Statement*
2. **Body Paragraph #1 – First “Prong”**
   1. *Topic Sentence*
   2. *Example/Evidence supporting your topic sentence*

At least one example needs to be a quote from the text

* 1. *Explanation of example/evidence*
  2. *Example/Evidence supporting your topic sentence*
  3. *Explanation of example/evidence*
  4. *Transition sentence*

1. **Body Paragraph #2 – Second “Prong”**
   1. *Topic Sentence*
   2. *Example/Evidence supporting your topic sentence*

At least one example needs to be a quote from the text

* 1. *Explanation of example/evidence*
  2. *Example/Evidence supporting your topic sentence*
  3. *Explanation of example/evidence*
  4. *Transition sentence*

1. **Body Paragraph #3**
   1. *Topic Sentence*
   2. *Example/Evidence supporting your topic sentence*

At least one example needs to be a quote from the text

* 1. *Explanation of example/evidence*
  2. *Example/Evidence supporting your topic sentence*
  3. *Explanation of example/evidence*
  4. *Transition sentence*

1. **Conclusion**
   1. *Reword thesis statement*
   2. *Summarize main points*
   3. *Final thought:* a general, universal statement; can connect back to hook