

**Wednesday**

**3/11/20**

**IMPROMPTU ESSAY**

\*\*\*This essay is timed. You must submit by the end of the class period.\*\*\*

***Choose one of the following prompts....***

1. Walter, Beneatha, and Mama from *A Raisin in the Sun* struggled or failed to realize their dreams. Identify the dream that was deferred and tell what each character (Walter, Beneatha, and Mama) could have done differently in order to realize that dream.
  
2. Are the characters in *A Raisin in the Sun* stereotypes? If so, explain the usefulness of employing stereotypes in the story. If they are not, explain how they exemplify individuality.
  
3. **A.** Choose one of the following themes:
  - \*Family is the most important relationship in most people's lives.
  - \*Dreams are as necessary to people as food and shelter.
  - \*It is better to fight with dignity than surrender in shame.**B.** Then choose at least two of the main characters -- Walter, Ruth, Beneatha, or Mama -- and write an essay explaining how their experiences relate to the theme.
  
4. Why did the author include the element of Ruth's pregnancy? What did it add to the story?

5. Who is the main character in the play? Justify your answer.
  
6. What *does* happen to a dream deferred? Langston Hughes asks this question, suggesting that unfulfilled desires may take on a life of their own, with unpredictable consequences. In an essay, discuss how Lorraine Hansberry answers the question posed by Langston Hughes. Refer to the poem, which is printed at the beginning of *A Raisin in the Sun*, and explain connections between Hughes' poem and one or more specific characters in the play.