**2. Prove it. (20 points)**

In a power-paragraph, provide sufficient and specific proof that **your theme** is valid.

Use specific quotes (textual evidence with page numbers) from the text to support your argument.

Submit your typed, standard font, standard font-size writing via [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) – see [www.mrfeldkamp.com](http://www.mrfeldkamp.com) for the access codes for your class.

Structure an argument/defense (beginning, middle, end)

Due date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Essential elements:

* Identify the title, author, and genre (TAG)
* Declare your theme
* Provide context for the theme (situation, background, framework, characters, etc.)
* Provide convincing evidence to support your theme using one or more representative quotes/passages from the text (include parenthetical page number citation. See example below).
* Explore/analyze the effect the theme has on the audience. Provide enough elaboration to explain/justify your claims. Claim/Evidence/Reasoning (CER)

**Sample “Power” Paragraph – (the focus in this sample is *irony*, not *theme*).**

In William Shakespeare’s tragic play, *Romeo and Juliet*, Romeo finds Juliet in a drugged sleep that is meant to replicate death. In fact, Romeo wrongly assumes Juliet is dead, and therefore kills himself. The discomfort and tension the audience feels is due to the dramatic irony in this scene. Dramatic irony occurs when the audience knows something that the characters do not. We know that Juliet is not dead, and when Romeo declares, “O mischief, thou art swift to enter in the thoughts of desperate men!” (122), the audience can feel the growing discomfort and tension. When Romeo kills himself, the intensity of the tragic feeling increases because we know that Juliet is still alive, and we know she’s going to wake up to find Romeo dead. Likewise, upon awakening to find her dead lover beside her, the audience knows that Juliet will also kill herself because the chorus at the beginning of the play had already announced, “a pair of star-cross’d lovers take their life” (5). The dramatic irony in this scene makes the weight of the tragedy heavier. We feel awful and uncomfortable because there is nothing we can do about it, and we feel pity for the characters because their love story ends in tragedy.