Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ *Th1rteen R3asons Why*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Reader Response

Directions: You will write a **personal response** to *Th1rteen R3asons Why* that will explain and defend your personal reaction to the text. This is NOT a book report. You will provide a thesis statement of opinion that can be supported with evidence from the novel. Follow the steps below to organize your thoughts and select your evidence for your **500-700 word essay response**.

1. Use the following questions to reflect on the text:

* Do you like or dislike the text?
* Can you identify the author's purpose?
* Do you agree or disagree with the author?
* Does the text relate to you and your life? If so, how? If not, why not?
* Does the text agree with, or go against your personal world view?
* What, if anything, did you learn from the text?

1. Review the text:

* Think about how the text makes you feel and WHY.
* What important passages/quotes will support your response?

1. Formulate an overall impression of *Th1rteen R3asons Why*:

* Love it? Hate it?
* Something really bothered you? Really connected to?
  + I think that...
  + I feel that...
  + I see that...
  + I have learned that...

1. Formulate a clear thesis statement or overall argument:
   * Ex: “Even though I found *The Scarlet Letter* hard to follow at times, Hester Prynne’s story is still relatable, and made me think a lot about the effects of publicly shaming people online.”
   * Ex: “Some people may believe *The Old Man and the Sea* is a book about failure, but it is really a story of perseverance that teaches us that success may not always come in the form we expect, and even disasters can lead to positive outcomes.”
2. Create an outline for your essay:
   * Introduction: 1 paragraph.
   * Analysis/Body Paragraphs: 3-4 paragraphs.
   * Conclusion: 1 paragraph.
3. Choose example passages to use in your analysis:
   * Must support your thesis statement
   * Provide clear examples of what you will analyze
     + Key dialogue that captures the protagonist’s personality?
     + Scene that connects with personal life?
     + Scene that taught you how you might handle a specific situation?

PLEASE TURN OVER🡪🡪

Your **critique** should include the following:

Introduction:

* Name both text and author
* Briefly explain focus of essay
* End with your thesis statement/argument

Body Paragraphs:

* Answer some of the reading questions in steps 1 & 3
  + Don’t have to answer in any order
  + Can combine multiple questions and address in one paragraph
  + Discuss text in depth
* Include 1-2 specific examples from the text per paragraph
  + Don’t all have to be direct quotes
    - Keep quotes short and sweet
    - Ex: “My big fish must be somewhere,’ said Santiago. This is exactly how I felt after I received my third rejection letter, but like Santiago, I kept trying, and eventually I was accepted” (Hemingway 35).
  + Might just describe an event or passage
    - Ex: “At the end of *The Old Man and the Sea*, Manolin promises to once again fish with Santiago, so the old man no longer has to be alone. This was Santiago’s greatest wish, but it was a different kind of success than he initially set out to achieve.”
* First paragraph: may want to clarify info. about text, plot, themes, etc.
* Other paragraphs: provide an analysis of how you felt about the text

Conclusion:

* Should summarize your arguments and reminds reader of your thesis statement.
* One last chance to explain to your reader how you see all of your points fitting together.

Overall: Explain how, why and what:

* Explain not just how you felt about the text, but why it made you feel a certain way
  + Ex: “Cassette 6, side B made me feel uncomfortable because...”
* Don’t just state the text taught you a lot, give an example of what you learned
  + Ex: “I learned that sometimes we don’t realize...”
* A reader response is meant to be personal, so it’s OK to incorporate personal anecdotes and opinions into your analysis.
  + Ex: “Forcing Hester Prynne to wear the scarlet “A” reminded me of a time when I was cyber-bullied in eighth grade, and my “friends” spread rumors about me online where the whole school could see.”