Criteria	Novice	On-Target	Advanced
Analysis of Context of the Novel Demonstrates analytical understanding of how the historical, social, and cultural context of *To Kill a Mockingbird* shapes the characters and plot of the novel and silences voices.	Begins to explore how the historical, social, and cultural context of *To Kill a Mockingbird* shapes the characters and plot of the novel, but demonstrates limited understanding of how a different time period and environment can silence a voice or impact choices.	Demonstrates adequate understanding of how the historical, social, and cultural context of *To Kill a Mockingbird* shapes the characters and plot of the novel. Demonstrates adequate understanding of how different time periods and environments can silence a voice or impact choices.	Demonstrates higher level of critical thinking about how the historical, social, and cultural context of *To Kill a Mockingbird* shapes the characters and plot of the novel. Shows an in-depth understanding of how setting impacts an individual's choices and explores the risks and impacts of silencing voices.
Themes of the Novel Demonstrates understanding of how the themes of empathy, prejudice, discrimination, and oppression impact the characters and plot in *To Kill a Mockingbird*	The story's characterization and plot may attempt to touch on the themes of empathy, prejudice, discrimination, and/or oppression in *To Kill a Mockingbird.* The story may struggle to evoke emotional reaction, interest, and/or curiosity on the part of the reader.	The story's characterization and plot explores the themes of empathy, prejudice, discrimination, and/or oppression in *To Kill a Mockingbird.* The story evokes some emotional reaction, interest, and/or curiosity on the part of the reader.	The story's characterization and plot expresses the themes of empathy, prejudice, discrimination, and/or oppression in *To Kill a Mockingbird.* The story evokes emotional reaction, interest, and curiosity on the part of the reader. The story immerses the reader.
Use of Textual Evidence Blended with Creative License Firmly grounds the character and scene in elements of the novel while making realistic and creative speculations	The story's characterization and plot may be grounded occasionally in the characterization and plot of the original but stray too far. Speculation may be creative but too implausible.	The story's characterization and plot are grounded in the characterization and plot of the original while also taking a few interesting risks with speculation. There is a mix of plausibility and implausibility in the choices that could be more convincing or related to the original narrative.	The story's characterization and plot are grounded in the characterization and plot of the original while also taking successful risks with speculation. Events in the past, present, or future are plausible based on the original narrative while taking the story to a new level of interest and depth.