**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Block: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

***A Christmas Carol* Adaptation Argument essay**

Charles Dickens’s *A Christmas Carol* remains popular, has never been out of print, and has been adapted to film, opera, and other media. The Internet Movie Database lists more than 100 actors who have portrayed the famous Dickensian miser. With so many different versions, there are bound to be some that are arguably better than their counterparts. You will be arguing a **claim of value** in an essay determining which of two adaptations of *A Christmas Carol* is the better one and for what reasons. One of the adaptations will be assigned to you and viewed in class, the other is up to you. You may choose any adaptation- film, television episode, musical, play, etc.- for your second adaptation, but you must make a proper citation for the work using easybib.com.

**First, consider the word “adaptation”. Look at your vocabulary notes. In your own words, what does “adaptation” mean? What would you expect a “good” adaptation of a book to do or be? What specifically would you want to see from the novella in the movie of *A Christmas Carol?***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***A Christmas Carol* Comparison** | |
| **Robert Zemeckis’s *A Christmas Carol* (2009)**  *A Christmas Carol*. Dir. Robert Zemeckis. Perf. Jim Carey, Gary Oldman, and Colin Firth. Walt Disney Pictures, 2009. DVD. | **2nd Version of your choice:**  **Title:**  **Director:**  **Main Performer(s):**  **Production Company:**  **Year Produced:**  **Format:** |
| **What aspects make this a good adaptation?** | **What aspects make this a good adaptation?** |
| **What aspects make this a poor adaptation?** | **What aspects make this a poor adaptation?** |

***Graphic organizers and additional resources are on fitzellenglish.weebly.com***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Insightful**  **4** | **General**  **3** | **Basic/**  **Partial**  **2** | **Incorrect/**  **Irrelevant**  **1** |
| Appropriately engages reader at beginning of essay.  Provides background information on the topic to sufficiently prepare reader to understand the topic at hand. |  |  |  |  |
| Explains what the writer (that’s you) believes about what makes a good adaptation and which of the two version best fit. |  |  |  |  |
| Clear, specific, and sufficient evidence and explanations are used to support the writer’s claims about adaptation and the various versions. |  |  |  |  |
| Sufficient execution of either classical oration or Rogerian |  |  |  |  |
| MLA format: 12 size Times New Roman Font, appropriate heading, pages numbered, citations used, etc. (see handout from Writer’s definition essay or use owl.english.purdue.edu)  Spelling/Grammar is publishing ready |  |  |  |  |

**A=18-20 B=16-17 C=14-15 D=12-13 F=<12**

**Required reading:** *SOAPStone Analysis & 3 appeals*

* **Francine Prose’s “I Know Why the Caged Bird Cannot Read”** *pg176*
* **Ralph Waldo Emerson’s from *Education*** *pg189*

**Choose 2 of the following:** *SOAPStone Analysis & 3 appeals, Arrangement Analysis*

* **Baldwin’s “A Talk to Teachers”** *pg197*
* **Mori’s “School”** *pg204*
* **Alexie’s “Superman and Me”** *pg215*
* **Sedaris’s “Me Talk Pretty One Day** *pg218*
* **Talbot’s “Best in Class”** *pg223*
* **Cisneros’s “Eleven”** *pg239*
* **Mann’s “Report of the Mass Board of Ed.***248*
* **Gitlin’s “Liberal Arts”** *pg251*
* **Botstein’s “Let Teenagers try Adulthood”** *254*
* **Ravitch’s “Stop the Madness”** *pg257*
* **Barboza’s “Shanghai Schools’ Approch Pushes Students To Top Of Tests”** *pg263*