**Cry, The Beloved Country**

**Essay Prompts**

Students will choose one of the following prompts and write a C-E-C analytical essay. Using examples from the text to support your thesis, a minimum of two quotes per body paragraph is required. Be sure to use MLA format and include a Works Cited. Please note that no outside sources are required, however, if you do use any outside sources you must include them in your Works Cited. A copy of your outline must be turned in (can be hand-written), but the essay must be created in google docs in your google folder.

1. Compare the lives of the following native women. Why are they so different? Do the women themselves have the power to change their circumstances? *Note: This is not an opinion essay. All your commentary is 3rd person and is supported by textual evidence. Please do not add personal commentary.*

• Mrs. Kumalo  
• the young pregnant girl

• Gertrude  
• Mrs. Lithebe

1. Discuss the following statement: Religion is important to the story because Christian values and faith help the characters endure their suffering, guide the characters into decent lives, and promote hope for the future of South Africa.
2. Arthur Jarvis says "It was permissible to allow the destruction of a tribal system that impeded the growth of the country. It was permissible to believe that its destruction was inevitable. But it is not permissible to watch its destruction, and to replace it with nothing, or by so little, that a whole people deteriorates, physically and morally." What events in the novel illustrate the breakup of the tribal system? How is the tribal system destroyed? What is done to replace it?

**Final essays are due: Friday, April 22**

Your essays will be graded according to the expectations as listed above. You must meet the minimum requirements in order to succeed on this essay. A further explanation of grading can be found below.

A range essays will exhibit expertise in terms of structure, organization, sentence structure, analysis, voice, and style. The essay is written in literary present tense, 3rd person, no contractions, and does not say “This essay is about” or “This quote shows” or when “John says this,” etc.

A range essays have effectively addressed the primary elements of the reading (as listed above) and have also incorporated further analysis as it pertains to some of the minor elements of the piece. All claims are backed up by relevant examples from the text. Quotations are of an appropriate length (not too long/ short) for the analysis presented, and are introduced and explained in an effective and stylistic compelling manner.

B range essays have the primary properties as above but may be lacking in one or two of the areas mentioned. The voice of the author may be less defined, the analysis, while perhaps effective, might need further development, the structure, while adequate, could be developed in a more advanced manner. Minor elements might be overlooked, and quotations might have been presented in a more effective way.

C range essays will have the primary properties as above but may have inaccurately interpreted particular pieces of information, failed to include one of the major elements of the piece, have some structural/ organizational errors, contain quotations of inappropriate length, and/ or provide points of analysis that do not align with the section being analyzed.