English II pre-honors Mrs. Gerhardt DUE:

Who Am I? in-class essay

Directions: **Write an essay in which you introduce yourself to me.** Make sure you have a clearly formulated thesis statement in your intro. **Title your essay**. Follow the regular essay format (intro, body of 2-4 paragraphs, conclusion) and weave the answers to the following questions into your essay in any order:

* What is the story behind your name (first and/or middle)? (intro)
* What sort of student are you? Why did you decide to take pre-Honors class? (intro or body)
* What is the purpose of English class? What is your personal history in English class? (body)
* What is a “work ethic”? What sort of work ethic do you possess (i.e. how do you feel and how do you behave when things are more difficult than you expected)? (body)
* What is your favorite way to learn? What is your least favorite way to learn? Why? (body)
* What is the best thing you’ve read? Why do you like it? (body)
* What is the least favorite thing you’ve read? Why didn’t you like it? (body)
* What extra-curricular activities do you enjoy? (body or conclusion)
* Are there adults at home who are involved in your schooling? Describe that relationship. (body or conclusion)

**Tie your answers into paragraphs with focused topic sentences**. DO NOT just answer questions. Your THESIS (in the introduction) should answer the essay question/prompt. **PROOFREAD** carefully!

Essay Rubric 🡪 your 1st essay grade will be calculated as follows:

Introduction: hook, background info, thesis 6 points max

Organization: topic sentences, logical sequence 4 points max

Evidence: questions are answered with details 6 points max

Conclusion: brief summary, strong ending 4 points max

Mechanics: spelling, grammar, punctuation, word choice, sentence structure/variety 5 points max

TOTAL 25 points