

***Behind the Mountain* Cumulative Task**

Objective: Your goal is to produce an analytical essay that answers one of the prompts and relies on evidence from the novel.

Prompt 1: How does a title develop theme? After reading *Behind the Mountain*, write an essay in which you explain how the meaning of the novel's title demonstrates a central theme of an immigrant's story. Support your position with evidence from the text.

Prompt 2: What motivates a person to immigrate? After reading *Behind the Mountain*, write an essay in which you explain the causes of immigration and the effects of acculturation in the novel. Support your position with evidence from the text.

Recommended Steps to Completion:

- Read the novel *Behind The Mountain* by Edwidge Danticat
- Identify and explain the meaning of the Haitian proverbs and figurative language used
- Explain the push-pull factors of immigration and stages of adaptation as it is developed in the novel.
- Draft and revise a Thesis Sentence that addresses the prompt
- Gather Evidence from the novel
- Cite your sources in MLA-Style
- Organize Your Information (Introduction, Supporting Details, Conclusion)
- Create an Outline
- First Draft (turn into teacher for comments)
- Revision of First Draft
- Self Review
- Peer Review
- A Published Final Draft using the MLA Style

Common Core Standards:**CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.9-10.1**

Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.9-10.2

Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.9-10.4

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language evokes a sense of time and place; how it sets a formal or informal tone).

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RL.9-10.6

Analyze a particular point of view or cultural experience reflected in a work of literature from outside the United States, drawing on a wide reading of world literature.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.1

Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.