Choose one prompt to address based on your knowledge of the text.

1. What are the novels important symbols and what do they represent? Consider how each symbol changes as

well.

1. The sow's head and the conch shell each wield a certain kind of power over the boys. In what way is *Lord of*

*the Flies* a novel about power?

1. Develop an explanation of why some critics feel that Golding's main themes are that there is no hope for

mankind, or that evil is an inborn trait of mankind. Be sure to use examples from the book and describe your own ideas.

1. Ralph said, “Things are breaking up. I don’t understand why. We began well. We were happy.” (82) Explain what went wrong and why. You may choose to examine each of Ralph’s four short statements, if you wish.
2. If each of the main characters is representative of a facet of human nature, what does each represent?

Consider not only the boys’ characters, but also their responses to the challenge of survival, the deterioration of “civilized” society, and their ultimate fate.

1. Using *Lord of the Flies* as an example, explain the possible ramifications of fear. What effect does fear have

on the human ability to control impulses and instincts?

1. Explain the irony of the two instances of adult presence on the island. Why are these incidents ironic and

what comment is Golding making about “the majesty of adult life”?

8. In some works of literature, a character who appears briefly is a significant presence. Write an essay in which you show how such a character functions in the novel. You may wish to discuss how the character affects action, theme, or the development of other characters.

9. Choose a character from the novel and write an essay in which you briefly describe the standards of the fictional society in which the character exists and show how the character is affected by and responds to those standards. In your essay do not merely summarize the plot.