

Honor System Writing Assignment(50 point writing assignment using AP Rubric)

40 minutes timed, without EXTRA help other than your TPCASTT sheet- be prepared to turn in BOTH

Read the poem “Mirror” by Sylvia Plath (1932-1963) carefully. Then write a well-organized essay discussing how the poet uses imager, diction and poetic devices to reinforce the poem’s theme.

Mirror (1961) – Sylvia Plath

I am silver and exact. I have no preconceptions.
What ever you see I swallow immediately
Just as it is, unmisted by love or dislike.
I am not cruel, only truthful---
The eye of a little god, four-cornered.
Most of the time I meditate on the opposite wall.
It is pink, with speckles. I have looked at it so long
I think it is a part of my heart. But it flickers.
Faces and darkness separate us over and over.
Now I am a lake. A woman bends over me,
Searching my reaches for what she really is.
Then she turns to those liars, the candles or the moon.
I see her back, and reflect it faithfully.
She rewards me with tears and an agitation of hands.
I am important to her. She comes and goes.
Each morning it is her face that replaces the darkness.
In me she has drowned a young girl, and in me an old woman
Rises toward her day after day, like a terrible fish.