<div align="center">**Mini-Argument**</div>

Writing Situation: In her Nobel Prize acceptance speech, Toni Morrison weaves a story of an old, blind woman's conversation with young people who cry out to her: "Tell us what it is to be a woman so that we may know what it is to be a man."

Writing Prompt: To what extent will a woman's character influence a man's? In one typed page—no more—no less confirm, challenge, or qualify the extent to which you agree or disagree that a woman's character will influence a man's.

Sample:
Qualified thesis: While it is true that a man can carve out his own character, a virtuous woman—whether his mother or wife—will have a powerful influence on a man's character; likewise, a cynical, critical woman can destroy an insecure man's character because he will give her too much power in his thinking.

Specific examples/Focused analysis:

Therefore, what?: A man who loves the woman in his life will seek to please and serve her, provided she affords him proper respect—so ladies remain virtuous and respectful in order to bring out the best in your man!

Sample:
Qualified thesis: While it is true that a woman may influence a man's character, when in conflict, most men will *consider* a woman's view, but ultimately, he will make choices that allows him self-respect.

Specific example/Focused analysis:

Therefore, what?: A man who respects himself will appreciate a woman's counsel, but not allow himself to be influenced negatively; therefore, we should all be sure we can look ourselves in the mirror without fear.

<div align="center">**Mini Argument Scoring Criteria**</div>

_____/10   Crafts a clear qualified thesis in response to Morrison quote that provides a reason

_____/10   Supports position with 2 appropriate examples—one from *Macbeth* plus one *specific* outside example.

_____/10   Crafts *concise* analysis focused on thesis

_____/5   Uses transitions to glue examples together

_____/5   Draws a conclusion from discussion that moves beyond thesis

_____/5   MLA format—documents sources using correct
                  spacing and indentation
                  punctuation and necessary info

_____/5   Revises muddled prose / Free of careless proofreading errors

_____
_____/50   Total