

**Grade 10**  
**DISTRICT WRITING INSTRUCTION**  
Response to Literature Writing Prompt-Form M

**Directions:**

- Read the poem on the following pages.
- As you read, you may mark the poem or make notes. Marks and notes will not be scored.
- You will have time to plan and write your first draft with edits.
- You may reread or go back to the story at any time during the test.
- Only what you write on the lined pages will be scored.
- Use only a No. 2 pencil to write your response.

Read the following writing task.

**Writing the Response to Literature Essay**

Read Plath’s poem, “Southern Sunrise,” carefully. Write an essay analyzing the use of **three** literary devices such as alliteration, allusion, metaphor, imagery, personification, and simile. Explain how these devices contribute to the depiction of the sunrise.

**Scoring:**

In this writing assessment, you will write a response to literature essay. Your writing will be scored on how well you

- Show your understanding and insights about the poem;
- Develop a focused main idea or thesis statement;
- Organize your writing around several clear ideas throughout the essay;
- Provide a clear introduction, body, and conclusion;
- Give specific examples and direct quotes from the poem;
- Support your interpretations with examples and explanations;
- Connect your interpretations to the author’s technique as identified in the prompt; and
- Use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and capitalization.

Sylvia Plath

Southern Sunrise

Color of lemon, mango, peach,  
These storybook villas  
Still dream behind  
Shutters, their balconies  
Fine as hand-  
Made lace, or a leaf-and-flower pen-sketch.

Tilting with the winds,  
On arrowy stems,  
Pineapple-barked,  
A green crescent of palms  
Sends up its forked  
Firework of fronds.

A quartz-clear dawn  
Inch by bright inch  
Gilds all our Avenue,  
And out of the blue drench  
Of Angels' Bay  
Rises the round red watermelon sun.