

# **PAGE Georgia Academic Decathlon**

## **ESSAY**

### **PRACTICE ESSAY PROMPTS**

Decathletes will be asked to write essays that are based on the super quiz topic and/or the language and literature topic. Below are sample essay prompts that are illustrative of prompts students may encounter on the essay test.

#### **Instructions to Students**

Select one of the prompts for your essay. Write the number of the prompt on the top of the first page of your essay. Write a well-organized essay in which you clearly respond to the question or direction that is presented in the prompt. Be sure to follow the accepted rules of standard English sentence structure, usage, spelling, and punctuation, and to use appropriate diction and style. Maintain legible handwriting. You may use a pen if you wish, but avoid messy cross-outs. Use specific information and examples from your studies to support your position. Provide a final paragraph to conclude or close your essay.

(The following Sample Essay Prompts have come from the USAD Practice Test Booklet.)

#### **ESSAY #1**

A. C. Bradley, the eminent authority on Shakespearean tragedy, declined to include *Antony and Cleopatra* in his seminal work *Shakespearean Tragedy*. In a well-organized essay, identify some of the features or lack of features in *Antony and Cleopatra* that might account for his decision, and agree or disagree with his choice.

#### **ESSAY #2**

Both Spenser and Shakespeare use the sonnet form extensively. In a well-organized essay, compare and contrast Spenser's Sonnet LIIII and Shakespeare's Sonnet 30, discussing theme, language, imagery, sound patterns and use of form.

#### **ESSAY #3**

Explore the ideas of the Renaissance that encouraged the exploration and discovery of the New World and the legacy that it has left to modern generations. How have ideas that contributed to the spirit of Renaissance discovery permeated modern society? Use specific details from the *USAD Super Quiz Resource Guide* to support your position.