

Name \_\_\_\_\_

ID# \_\_\_\_\_

## **In-class Essay *Invisible Man*: Prompt and Planning Sheet**

You will have eight minutes to plan your essay on this paper. After this time, you will be given lined paper on which to write your essay. In the upper right-hand corner of the paper, write your student number and today's date. Turn in this sheet separately from your essay. ***Do not merely summarize plot.***

**Prompt 1:** In some works of literature, a character who appears briefly, or does not appear at all, is a significant presence. Write an essay in which you show how such a character functions in *Invisible Man*. You may wish to discuss how the character affects action, theme, or the development of other characters.

**Prompt 2:** Novels and plays often include scenes of weddings, funerals, parties, and other social occasions. Such scenes may reveal the values of the characters and the society in which they live. Select one of these scenes from *Invisible Man* and in a focused essay, discuss the contribution the scene makes to the meaning of work as a whole.

**Prompt 3:** Many plays and novels use contrasting places (for example, two countries, two cities or towns, two houses, or the land and the sea) to represent opposed forces or ideas central to the meaning of the work. Two such places are contrasted in *Invisible Man*. Write an essay explaining how the places differ, what each place represents, and how their contrast contributes to the meaning of the work.

**Prompt 4:** A symbol is an object, action, or event that represents something or that creates a range of associations beyond itself. In literary works a symbol can express an idea, clarify meaning, or enlarge literal meaning. From *Invisible Man*, focus on one symbol and write an essay analyzing how that symbol functions in the work and what it reveals about the characters or themes of the work as a whole.

**Prompt 5:** In retrospect, the reader often discovers that the first chapter of a novel introduces some of the major themes of the work. Write an essay about the first chapter of *Invisible Man* in which you explain how the first chapter functions to set forth major themes, introduce important characters and conflicts, establish the tone and mood of the book, etc.

**Planning:** Annotate your chosen prompt, identifying all the key words & your exact task. Use the space below to jot down specific incidents & quotes that you will use as evidence in your essay. You may write on the back.