

# QUALITY WORK REFLECTION (QWR) ESSAY

Evidence of QW is an assignment that you struggled with yet took pride in that reflects your mastery of the **Common Core State Standards** in English or Math, or the **Next Generation Science Standards** from the classes you have taken here at Northridge Academy High School. The purpose of the QW essay is for you to reflect on how the assignment you completed embodies the **Learning Conversation Principles** (LCP's), the **School Wide Learning Outcomes** (SLO's), and the **Pillars of Character**. As you write the QWR, you should cite specific examples and draw connections between your work and the type of work you will do when you graduate from NAHS.

## MLA Format:

- Typed
- Double-spaced
- 12 point font (Arial or Times)
- Full Heading

## DIRECTIONS:

A. **You will write five (5) paragraphs** as described below. Be sure to respond to all questions thoroughly, using 6-10 sentences per paragraph.

1. **Describe the assignment and how it fits into the coursework.** Why did you **select this assignment as evidence**? Explain how this QW challenged you, how you demonstrated mastery of standards, and as a result, gained pride in your achievement.
2. **Select a Pillar of Character.** Explain how this piece of QW provides evidence to support the Pillar of Character you have selected.
3. **Reflect upon yourself.** What have you learned about yourself, your beliefs, your community, your peers, and/or your skills as a writer and critical thinker? Use key words/ phrases from the definition within the paragraph.
4. **Select a School Wide Learner Outcome (SLO).** How does your QW connect with the SLO you have selected? Explain in detail, using the SLO definition and/or bullet points to be specific. Use key words/ phrases/ bullet points from the definition within the paragraph.
5. **Connections.** Describe how you connected to this project on a personal level. In addition, what skills\* did you utilize and build on that can be useful to you once you venture outside into the "real world"?

## \*SKILLS may include:

- organization
- time-management
- reading, writing, listening
- speaking, language, bilingual
- research, editing, revision
- critical thinking,
- typing, utilizing computer programs, technology,
- communication
- math concepts
- science concepts
- analyzing historical issues
- artistic skills
- creative skills
- note-taking
- leadership

B. **Attach the piece of quality work.**

**Note:** If your evidence is a PowerPoint, print out the slides. If your evidence is a poster board, take a picture of it and then print it out. If your project was a video, write a short description of the video and attach it to the reflection. If it is a group project, make a copy for yourself and attach it to the reflection. On the day of your portfolio presentation, you may bring the actual piece of work.

## THE SIX PILLARS OF CHARACTER

### **Trustworthiness**

Be honest • Don't deceive, cheat or steal • Be reliable — do what you say you'll do • Have the courage to do the right thing • Build a good reputation • Be loyal — stand by your family, friends and country

### **Respect**

Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule • Be tolerant of differences • Use good manners, not bad language • Be considerate of the feelings of others • Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone • Deal peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements

### **Responsibility**

Do what you are supposed to do • Persevere: keep on trying! • Always do your best • Use self-control • Be self-disciplined • Think before you act — consider the consequences • Be accountable for your choices

### **Fairness**

Play by the rules • Take turns and share • Be open-minded; listen to others • Don't take advantage of others • Don't blame others carelessly

### **Caring**

Be kind • Be compassionate and show you care • Express gratitude • Forgive others • Help people in need

### **Citizenship**

Do your share to make your school and community better • Cooperate • Get involved in community affairs • Stay informed; vote • Be a good neighbor • Obey laws and rules • Respect authority • Protect the environment

## SCHOOL-WIDE LEARNER OUTCOMES (SLO'S)

### **Powerful Thinkers**

Acquire high level content knowledge by critical reading and investigate activities. • Select and utilize technology appropriately and creatively. • Apply new understandings to achieve deeper meaning. • Apply new understandings to achieve deeper meaning.

### **Life Long Learners**

Build resiliency • Assess their own strengths and weaknesses and build on them • Motivate and support their own learning • Access and build upon prior knowledge and experience.

### **Culturally Aware Individuals**

Show respect for diversity in a complex world. • Uphold democratic values of freedom of expression, openness, equality, acceptance, cooperation and justice. • Demonstrate respect and compassion toward all individuals. Understand the power of language and its usages.

### **Successful Communicators**

Employ LCP's in daily practice. • Develop skills to speak, writer, read, and listen effectively.

### **Effective and Responsible Citizens**

Learn and apply academic and social skills • Develop and nurture lifelong compassion and understanding. Contribute productively to society through employment, research, civic engagement, concern for community, issues, and service.