

11.2.1 Mid-Unit Assessment

Text-Based Response

Your Task: Rely on your reading and analysis of “Of Our Spiritual Strivings” to write a well-developed response to the following prompt:

Identify a central idea in “Of Our Spiritual Strivings” and analyze how Du Bois uses figurative language or rhetoric to develop this central idea.

Your writing will be assessed using the 11.2.1 Mid-Unit Text Analysis Rubric.

Guidelines

Be sure to:

- Closely read the prompt
- Address all elements of the prompt in your response
- Paraphrase, quote, and reference relevant facts and details
- Organize your ideas in a cohesive and coherent manner
- Maintain a formal style of writing
- Use appropriate and varied transitions
- Follow the conventions of standard written English

CCSS: RI.11-12.2; RI.11-12.6; W.11-12.2.a, b, c, f; L.11-12.1; L.11-12.2

Commentary on the Task:

This task measures RI.11-12.2 because it demands that students:

- Determine two or more central ideas of a text and analyze their development over the course of the text, including how they interact and build on one another to provide a complex analysis; provide an objective summary of the text.

This task measures RI.11-12.6 because it demands that students:

- Determine an author’s point of view or purpose in a text in which the rhetoric is particularly effective, analyzing how style and content contribute to the power, persuasiveness, or beauty of the text.

This task measures W.11-12.2.a-c, f because it demands that students:

- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.
 - Introduce a topic; organize complex ideas, concepts, and information so that each new element builds on that which precedes it to create a unified whole; include formatting (e.g.,

headings), graphics (e.g., figures, tables), and multimedia when useful to aiding comprehension.

- Develop the topic thoroughly by selecting the most significant and relevant facts, extended definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples appropriate to the audience’s knowledge of the topic.
- Use appropriate and varied transitions and syntax to link the major sections of the text, create cohesion, and clarify the relationships among complex ideas and concepts.
- Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented (e.g., articulating implications or the significance of the topic).

This task measures L.11-12.1 because it demands that students:

- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

This task measures L.11-12.2 because it demands that students:

- Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.