Good Neighbors

"Good fences make good neighbors."

Consider this quote from Robert Frost's poem **Mending Wall**. Why does this surface contradiction make sense, not only in the context of the poem, but also in real life?

Write a well-developed essay providing at least three specific examples proving this statement to be true. Make certain to reference the quote's origin (Robert Frost's poem) and explain why this contradictory statement is such a profound truth.

Use the checklist below to help you during the writing process.

CHECKLIST:

☐ Did I clearly explain the topic within the introduction?

☐ Do I clearly state the origin of this quote?

☐ Did I provide at least 3 examples proving this statement to be true?

☐ Does my conclusion provide a sense of closure (restated thesis)?

☐ Did I organize my writing using a variety of transitional words?

☐ Did I edit my writing to ensure proper and consistent verb tense?

☐ Do I use formal English (no slang)?

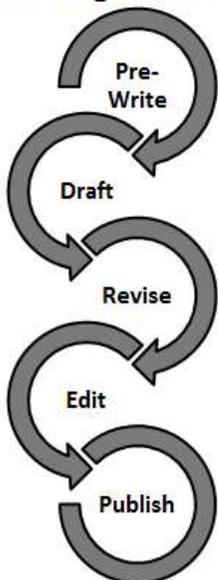☐ Did I use the rubric to self-edit my writing?

Name:		Date:		Hour:

8th **Informational Writing**

Points Possible	Expectations	Points Earned
40	**IDEAS** ☐ I communicated the information, ideas, and concepts thoroughly. ☐ I included facts, definitions, specific details, quotations, graphics, and/or multi-media components to better explain the topic. ☐ I included only relevant content; I have not included unnecessary details.	
10	**ORGANIZATION** ☐ Within the introduction, I explain the topic and preview what is to follow. ☐ My conclusion follows from and supports the information presented. ☐ I logically organized ideas, concepts, and information into broader categories. (Examples: compare/contrast, sequence, classification, cause/effect) ☐ I formatted my writing using headings and subheadings.	
10	**VOICE** ☐ I used only formal English (no slang). ☐ I did not include personal opinion or bias.	
10	**WORD CHOICE** ☐ I used a variety of transition words/phrases to create cohesion & clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts. ☐ I used precise words, relevant descriptive details, and appropriate vocabulary.	
10	**SENTENCE FLUENCY** ☐ My sentences begin in different ways and vary in length and structure. ☐ I use correct shifts in verb tenses, voice, and mood.	
10	**CONVENTIONS** ☐ I used correct capitalization, punctuation, grammar, and spelling.	
10	**PRESENTATION** ☐ The presentation of the text enhances the message.	

Writing Process

Pre-Write

Draft

Revise

Edit

Publish

Editing	✔	Writing Conference
Self-Edit: I used the rubric to edit my own writing.		**Feedback:**
Peer-Edit: _____ used the rubric to edit my own writing.		

Revision Decision	
Yes	No

Mending Wall

Robert Frost, 1874 – 1963

Something there is that doesn't love a wall,

That sends the frozen-ground-swell under it,

And spills the upper boulders in the sun;

And makes gaps even two can pass abreast.

The work of hunters is another thing:

I have come after them and made repair

Where they have left not one stone on a stone,

But they would have the rabbit out of hiding,

To please the yelping dogs. The gaps I mean,

No one has seen them made or heard them made,

But at spring mending-time we find them there.

I let my neighbor know beyond the hill;

And on a day we meet to walk the line

And set the wall between us once again.

We keep the wall between us as we go.

To each the boulders that have fallen to each.

And some are loaves and some so nearly balls

We have to use a spell to make them balance:

'Stay where you are until our backs are turned!'

We wear our fingers rough with handling them.

Oh, just another kind of outdoor game,

One on a side. It comes to little more:

There where it is we do not need the wall:

He is all pine and I am apple orchard.

My apple trees will never get across

And eat the cones under his pines, I tell him.

He only says, ***'Good fences make good neighbors.'***

Spring is the mischief in me, and I wonder

If I could put a notion in his head:

'*Why* do they make good neighbors? Isn't it

Where there are cows? But here there are no cows.

Before I built a wall I'd ask to know

What I was walling in or walling out,

And to whom I was like to give offense.

Something there is that doesn't love a wall,

That wants it down.' I could say 'Elves' to him,

But it's not elves exactly, and I'd rather

He said it for himself. I see him there

Bringing a stone grasped firmly by the top

In each hand, like an old-stone savage armed.

He moves in darkness as it seems to me,

Not of woods only and the shade of trees.

He will not go behind his father's saying,

And he likes having thought of it so well

He says again, **'Good fences make good neighbors.'**

S	**I**	**F**	**T**
Symbolism	**Imagery**	**Figurative Language**	**Tone & Theme**
An object, person, or place that has meaning within itself, but stands for something else in the context of the story	When the descriptive language used enables the reader to imagine the image clearly.	Assonance, Alliteration, Similes, Metaphors, Personification, Hyperbole, Puns, Idioms, Repetition, Rhyme, & Onomatopoeia	Tone is the quality of something (an act or a piece of writing) that reveals the attitudes and presuppositions of the author. Theme is the unifying idea that is a recurrent element.