Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_10/30/13\_\_

**Project target:** I can write arguments to support claims with clear reasons and relevant evidence.

**Prompt:** Consider the meaning of the novel’s title *Inside Out & Back Again*. How does this title relate to the universal refugee experience of fleeing and finding home? In what ways is Ha’s experience a specific example of this universal experience?

**Learning Targets:**

* I can analyze the development of a theme or central idea throughout a text in relation to supporting ideas. (Ideas criteria 2 & 4)
* I can cite text-based evidence that provides the strongest support for my analysis of an informational text. (Ideas criterion 3)
* I can write informative introductions & conclusions that set up and return to my analysis of the central text and bigger themes. (Ideas criteria 1 & 5)

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| **Trait** | **Beginning / Developing** | **Accomplished** | **Exemplary** |
| **Ideas** |  | * Clearly introduces the topic & central text in a manner that is compelling * Presents valid claims that clearly and accurately address the prompt * Selects relevant facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information from the text in relation to claim/inferences * Provides explanation and analysis to show how evidence supports claim and inferences * Presents a strong conclusion that follows from and reinforces the main argument (summarizes ideas and/or connects to a bigger theme) | * Intro identifies an overarching theme and builds to thesis * Establishes unified argument (connects and builds claims throughout the essay) * Discerns & connects the strongest evidence from multiple texts to build a case in support of claims * Analysis shows sophistication and makes connections to bigger, universal ideas & themes * Conclusion reconnects to bigger, universal ideas & themes |

**Learning Target:** I can produce clear and coherent writing that is appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

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| **Organization** |  | * Introduction presents lead, background info, and thesis to set up essay * Order of ¶s & ideas within ¶s follows logical progression and matches order of points presented in thesis & subsequent claims * Structure within body¶s follows point, evidence, & explanation * Signals connections and shifts in ideas within and between paragraphs by using transitional expressions * Quotes are introduced and anchored into the text * Conclusion presents recap of main ideas & closes with a final thought | * Order of ¶s & ideas within ¶s builds a case by using order of importance, cause / effect, chronology, etc. * Maintains parallel structure within all body ¶s |
| **Word Choice** |  | * Accurately use 8th grade academic vocabulary (specific nouns & language from the texts) to express my ideas | * Uses effective, convincing language that contributes to overall message & purpose |
| **Sentence**  **Fluency** |  | * Creates complete sentences that are smooth and easy to read * Uses a variety of sentence structures to make my writing and speaking more interesting |  |

**Learning Target:** I can use correct capitalization, punctuation, and spelling to send a clear message to my reader.

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| **Conventions** |  | * Few to no errors in capitalization, punctuation, and spelling * Grammar and usage are correct * Paragraphs are clearly indicated and properly formatted * Direct quotes are properly formatted * Parenthetical citations indicate source of evidence from the texts & are properly formatted | * Publishable quality that shows a command of conventions that goes beyond grade level expectations |