plainsong activity 3: formal writing assignment

directions: throughout this unit we have focused on how characters are developed over the course of the novel *Plainsong* and how characterization is used in different

ways. For our final assignment, you will choose one of the five characters or sets of

characters that we have focused on and write a one to two page piece focusing on both

characterization as well as what part of the story your piece fits into. Use Activity

Sheet 2 to decide what you'd most like to focus on (example Victoria Roubideaux "At

the beginning of the novel…")

your piece should include:

* your name, the class name, and the date in the heading, as well as the name of the character or characters your are portraying at the top of the page
* the piece should be formatted using 1 inch margins, 12 point Times New Roman font, and the text should be double spaced.
* **the piece should be written from your character's point of view**. In other words, you should be using first person perspective to compose your piece
* your piece should **include details and/or reference events from the novel**. Ideally, you should already have some idea of the focus of your piece if you use your quote from the Activity 1 worksheet and/or the details you wrote down on your Activity 2 worksheet.
* the focus of your piece should **focus on the character or characters' place in life during the time it is being placed within the story**. More clearly, is your piece set before the character or characters go through whatever event or events change them throughout the course of the novel? Is your piece set during that event? Or is your piece set after this event has taken place? Make sure this is clear in your writing.
* consider as well your character or characters' **voice** as you write your piece. \*\*Voice is the characteristic speech and thought patterns of a first-person narrator, in other words, the persona.\*\* (Example of a voice piece is included!)

due date: Monday October 17, 2011

Voldemort

And people wonder why I’m so irritable. Is it any wonder? All I wanted to do was push the envelope. Everyone is so narrow-minded. I just wanted to see how far magic could go. So I killed a few (thousand) people along the way. What’s that saying Muggles use so often? You can’t make an omelet without breaking a few eggs.

But what do I get for my efforts? What is my reward for being the most brilliant wizard of my time? My beautiful face is destroyed. I look like a freak of nature. No nose. Translucent skin. I used to be pretty! The witches would line up around the block to get some of this. Lately it’s only Bellatrix that’s still panting after me (and between you and me, she’s seen better days. Azkaban did a number on that woman).

So I raise my voice more than I used to. Wouldn’t you if you’d been the most powerful sorcerer in the world, all your plans were about to come into fruition, and then you were taken out by a baby in a crib? I mean, really. What did I do to deserve that kind of bad luck? All I want to do is irradiate the world of Mudbloods. Is that so bad?

I’m beginning to think it’s not even worth the trouble. My Death Eaters are a motley bunch. A few years ago a group of 15 year olds managed to fight them off. That doesn’t exactly strike fear into the hearts of people when they hear that sort of thing. That kind of just makes people laugh. And I don’t like being laughed at.

You know, sometimes it feels like I’m right back at the orphanage. Like I’m a 10 year old all over again trying desperately to prove a point and get back at all the kids that picked on me. At least this time around I have one person I can trust. At least this time I have Severus. He’s not much to hang around with, has a dreadful personality to be honest, but at least I know he’d never betray me….