

Name: _____ Date: _____

Short Essay Topics for *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry

Directions: Consider carefully the following statements & the assignment below. **Note:** You will not use every quote, only the one you feel passionate enough to respond to. Please circle the one you want to write about and turn this sheet in with your written response.

1. "All of us may not live to see the higher accomplishments of an African empire, so strong and powerful as to compel the respect of mankind, but we in our lifetime can so work and act as to make the dream a possibility within another generation." – Marcus Garvey
2. "No, I do not weep at the world – I am too busy sharpening my oyster knife." – Zora Neale Hurston
3. "The dream is real, my friends. The failure to make it work is the unreality." – Toni Cade Bambara
4. "You can't just sit there and wait for people to give you that golden dream, you've got to get out there and make it happen for yourself." – Diana Ross
5. "As long as one has a dream in his heart, he cannot lose the significance of living." – Howard Thurman
6. "The first sign of an educated person is that she asks more questions than she delivers answers." – Johnnetta Cole
7. "Education is the jewel casting brilliance into the future." – Mari Evans
8. "They have forgotten the struggle...and they have forgotten the road over which we have come, and they are not teaching it to their children." – Alex Haley
9. "We are all puppets in the hands of fate and seldom see the strings that move us." – Charles W. Chestnutt
10. "Fate is determined by what one does and what one doesn't do." – Ralph Ellison

Assignment: Decide whether you agree or disagree with the statement you circled. In a well-developed paragraph of 10-12 sentences, and with a thesis statement, and a concluding sentence, support, challenge, or modify the quote, using an example (or examples) from literature, the arts, history, politics, science/technology, current events, film, or your personal experiences and observations. Please use the MLA heading and include an original title with your response.