**On-Demand Literary Essay Pre/Post-Assessment – 5th Grade**

**Pre-Assessment Instructions:**

Students should be at their regular writing seats and will need loose-leaf paper and pencils. They need to be able to add pages if they want. Distribute copies of the short story, **“The Race”** and read it aloud to the students. Explain that the story is about making choices.

**Tell students:**

“Let’s each write an essay about the important idea in this short story – a piece that shows our best work. You will have an hour to write your thoughts about the important idea in this story and to use evidence from the story to support your thoughts. Use everything you know about good writing.”

Have students begin their literary essays.

**Note:**

This on-demand assessment shows what students know about essay writing to write about a short story. Score these essays using the ***Literary Essay Assessment Rubric*** located at the end of this unit. Pay close attention to what your writers can already do and almost do. This information will help you focus on goals for your students. Use the same rubric to score their published essays at the end of this unit to show what they have learned.

**Post-Assessment Instructions (optional):**

At the conclusion of this unit, administer the same on-demand assessment and look for improvements in your students’ development as writers.