Theme Analysis Prompt and Rubric

Task:

You have read and discussed the following selections throughout the past unit of study:

- "Dark They Were and Golden Eyed", a classic short science fiction story by Ray Bradbury.
- An Essay: The Fear of Losing a Culture, by Richard Rodriguez (Time Magazine, 1988)

Write an essay about the **common theme** in the readings. You will focus your essay on two readings: the fictional story "Dark They Were and Golden Eyed" Refer to the notes you took during group Socratic Seminars and discussion circles.

Your essay must:

- Include appropriate formatting: typed, double spaced, and using Times New Roman or Arial 12 pt font **only**. Margins should be 1.25 in.
- Your essay should be no less than two and a half pages long.
- Include a clear central idea or thesis statement, supported by well articulated reasoning and textual references and citations.
- Provide a concluding paragraph that summarizes all essential points and provides a feeling of closure.

Rubric

____/5 The essay is well organized; it includes a central idea that clearly indicates the understanding of the theme.

___/10 The essay includes clear and well articulated reasoning, supported by textual references, properly cited.

____/5 The essay has a strong and well articulated conclusion.

____/5 The writing is free of spelling and grammar errors that distract the reader. It follows formatting guidelines provided.

Total ___/25