***Black Boy* Critical Thinking Unit**

**Directions: Create a well-thought-out and well-written 6 sentence response for each question.**

**Try NOT to ANSWER the question. Instead, use the question as a writing prompt. AVOID “I.”**

**Each response should be completely labeled, and the question will serve as the title of the response.**

1. Why do some people say that being a parent is the hardest job in the world?

2. When does one human being have the right to physically punish another human being?

3. What is hate?

4. Why do human beings hate other human beings?

5. Formulate a written description of the qualities of an "ideal" parent.

6. True hunger is experienced by few Americans. How would it feel to starve?

7. Compare childhood fear to adult fear.

8. Why Richard Wright has such a difficult time understanding why blacks were treated differently from whites.

9. Richard Wright "loses" many things such as his father, his uncle, his dog, and, at times, his mother. Tell about a time when you lost something important.

10. Richard Wright talks about his many childhood superstitions. Explain why people have and keep superstitions.

11. If America is a land of freedom and democracy, why did the government allow whites to discriminate against, abuse, or even kill African Americans?

12. How do human beings learn new things?

13. Create a diagram showing all the things that work against Richard Wright. (Put "Richard" in a circle, and then, write words outside the circle that indicate the things which work against him.) Now, write about what you find.

14. Why does the principal want Richard to give "his" graduation speech instead of Richard's?

15. Explain your feelings about the treatment of blacks from page 179 through page 182.

16. From the reading, how do white people want blacks to act when they are around whites?

17. Portray a time when you were in a "no win" situation, and were confronted about information you had to supply.

18. Why do people cry?

19. Write about a time when one of your parents cried.

20. Write about a time you were pressured by your friends. What was the result?

21. Write about a time when you had trouble with your temper.

22. What is the most degrading thing you have ever done?

23. Write about an emotional "scar."

24. Write about things / situations you hate. Why do you hate them?

25. Can we, as humans, overcome racial prejudice?