NO-NO BOY ESSAY

Compose a 3-5 page literary analysis essay that addresses one of the following prompts:

- **Nationalism.** Each character’s conflicts, emotions, and ways of thinking are typically driven by their sense of nationalistic pride. Based on the novel’s content, what is one’s sense of national identity dependent on? What causes someone to identify himself/herself with a certain nation? What determines to which country our loyalties lie? What enables characters to acquire a true sense of nationalism?

- **Family vs. Self.** Much of Ichiro’s torment stems from the fact that he chose his duty to his family over his personal inclinations. Several other characters in the novel had similar or contrasting experiences, with various outcomes. What does the novel suggest about the importance of loyalty to our families? Should it take precedence over our duty to our own desires? What are the effects of choosing one over the other?

- **American-ness.** Throughout the novel, Ichiro goes through numerous internal debates and struggles to define what gives one the right to be American. According to the novel, what does it mean to be “American”? How is one able to feel “American” and who is entitled to this feeling? How are the characters’ actions driven and affected by their sense of “American-ness”?

**DUE DATE**

- MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2015 at 8:59 a.m. to turnitin.com for ALL CLASSES
- Submit hard copy in class on Mon, Feb 23 (per 5/7 & 9/11) / Tues, Feb 24 (per 2/4 & 6/8)
What I’m looking for in this essay:

- A clear and focused thesis statement (no 3-point thesis statement)
- At least one specific quote from the text in each body paragraph
- An organized essay with funnel intro paragraph, topic sentences, quote introductions, quote integrations, thorough explanations, and concluding statements
- Correct MLA citation format
- An obvious effort to proofread thoroughly for careless grammar, spelling, and formatting errors

Non-negotiable requirements:

- At least 3 full pages, double-spaced
- 1” margins
- A single-spaced heading with: Your Name, My Name, Course Name & Period, Date

EXAMPLE: Ichiro Yamada
Ms. Hou
English 11, Per 1/3
23 February 2015

CONTRACTIONS (i.e. couldn’t, it’s, didn’t, etc.)

FIRST-PERSON REFERENCES (i.e. you, I, we, us, our, my, etc.)

STAND-ALONE QUOTES