Things Fall Apart – Exile Q3 Essay

Palestinian American literary theorist and cultural critic Edward Said has written that “Exile is strangely compelling to think about but terrible to experience. It is the unhealable rift forced between a human being and a native place, between the self and its true home: its essential sadness can never be surmounted.” Yet Said has also said that exile can become “a potent, even enriching” experience.  
Select a novel, play, or epic (Things Fall Apart) in which a character experiences such a rift and becomes cut off from “home,” whether that home is the character’s birthplace, family, homeland, or other special place. Then write an essay in which you analyze how the character’s experience with exile is both alienating and enriching, and how this experience illuminates the meaning of the work as a whole.

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| 1B. Explain the function of a character changing or remaining unchanged. |
| 2C. Describe the relationship between a character and a setting. |
| 7B. Develop a thesis statement that conveys a defensible claim about an interpretation of literature and that may establish a line of reasoning. |
| 7C. Develop commentary that establishes and explains relationships among textual evidence, the line of reasoning, and the thesis. |
| 7D. Select and use relevant and sufficient evidence to both develop and support a line of reasoning. |