**Writing about** Cyrano de Bergerac

**Part I. Answer three (3) of the following questions. Each answer should be a complete literary paragraph (topic sentence, 3 examples of which 2 are supported by properly embedded quotations, and a clincher sentence which ties the paragraph together). Write neatly and legibly on your own paper.**

1. **Explain how the falling action and resolution of the play flow logically from the play's major conflict and its climax. Is the ending a satisfying conclusion? Why or why not?**
2. **Explain why Cyrano can be regarded as a romantic hero. Be sure to address the ways in which he is an unusual romantic hero.**
3. **Explain why the action which occurs in at least two acts of the play is appropriate to the setting in which it occurs.**
4. **According to the play, why should we admire an idealist like Cyrano? Does the play suggest that idealists are ultimately defeated by the real world? Explain.**
5. **What is the value of poetry and beautiful language, according to the play? Does the play place too high a value on language? Why or why not?**
6. **What might the white plume symbolize in the exchange between Cyrano and DeGuiche in Act 4? What does it come to symbolize at the end of the play?**

**Part II: Writing comedy - In this part, you will write a limerick dealing with the play. A limerick is a poem consisting of five lines, three of them (1,2, and 5) long and the third and fourth ones shorter. The rhyme scheme is** aabba**. Notice the rhythm and meter of the following classic limerick:**

**There was a young lady from Niger**

**Who smiled as she rode on a tiger.**

**They came back from the ride**

**With the lady inside**

**And the smile on the face of the tiger!**

**You may wish to begin your limerick with one of the following first line suggestions, or you may prefer to write your own:**

1. **Every man in the town loved Roxanne**
2. **A really great fighter was Cyrano**
3. **Though he had a long sword and big nose**