­**“Texas v. Johnson Majority Opinion” Reading Questions**

**(pgs. 15-17 in the HRW textbook)**

*\*Directions: Answer the following questions using complete sentences that restate the question in the answer. You will use evidence from the text for the questions that ask you to support your answers. Also, you need to use a different text color for your responses. Note: All questions are adapted from the Holt McDougal Online Textbook.*

1. \*CONNECT: What earlier points of law does Justice Brennan use to support the Court’s opinion in this case? Use evidence from the text to support your response.   
  
2. \*COMPARE: In its argument to make flag burning a criminal offense, what events did Texas predict might happen? How does the Court interpret the significance of these possible events? Use evidence from the text to support your response.  
  
3. \*CITE EVIDENCE: How does Justice Brennan support the idea that “the flag’s deservedly cherished place in our community will be strengthened, not weakened” by the ruling? Use evidence from the text to support your response.  
  
4. ANALYZE: How is the image of the flag flying over Fort McHenry related to the central idea of the opinion?  
  
5. ANALYZE: What does Justice Brennan’s repetition of the word resilience to refer to the nation suggest about his view of the Constitution?

**“American Flag Stands for Tolerance” Reading Questions**

**(pgs. 18-22 in the HRW textbook)**  
  
1. \*INFER: What words in the second paragraph convey Allen’s feelings toward the flag? Does understanding his attitude make you feel that his argument is stronger or weaker? Why? Use evidence from the text to support your response.  
  
2. DEFINE: Define the two terms: connotation, denotation.   
  
3. ANALYZE: In his editorial, Allen talks about the “sanctity of the human conscience” and the “enlightenment” that comes from debate. Explain how the **connotations** of these words help to convey his tone.

4. COMPARE: What ideas are expressed in both the editorial and the court opinion? Which argument do you find more convincing? Why?  
  
5. EVALUATE: A **fallacy** is an error in reasoning. Suppose Allen had included this sentence in his editorial: “Anyone who wants to throw flag burners in jail is obviously not a supporter of the Constitution.” In what way is this statement a fallacy?   
  
6. ANALYZE: Allen discriminates, or distinguishes, between what people should do and what they should be allowed to do. How does he reconcile this apparent contradiction in his argument?