Using the “claim, data, warrant” format, choose from one of the following two prompts and write a meaningful, textually supported essay. Use *The Stranger* by Albert Camus as your novel of choice.

Morally ambiguous characters–characters whose behavior discourages readers from identifying them as purely evil or purely good–are at the heart of many works of literature.  Choose a novel or play in which a morally ambiguous character plays a pivotal role.  Then write an essay in which you explain how the character can be viewed as morally ambiguous and why his or her moral ambiguity is significant to the work as a whole.  Avoid mere plot summary.

By examining Mersault’s responses to his experiences as an accused murderer, explain how Mersault is able to attain happiness—despite his hopeless fate—by adopting Camus’ philosophy of the absurd.