**Ayn Rand’s Essay: How Does One Lead a Rational Life in an Irrational Society?**

**Directions:** After you have read the essay (at least once), you will first annotate and then answer the questions that follow. You may write directly on this paper. Upon finishing, be sure the questions are stapled ON TOP of Ayn Rand’s Essay that has your annotations on it, and turn them into the tray before the end of class.

**Annotations** (evidence of annotations must be clearly completed on Ayn Rand’s Essay):

1. Circle all words in which you do not know the definitions.

2. For all of the words you have circled, define these words directly on the paper (dictionaries are on the bookshelf to your right, or you may use your phone to look up the words).

3. Highlight at least 5 quotes throughout the paper that you find interesting and respond to the quote directly on the essay. You can respond by making a connection (personal or otherwise), discuss what questions it raises, or even respond whether or not you agree with her assertion and explain why or why not. You can respond to what you’ve highlighted in any way really; it just needs to be meaningful and thoughtful.

**Directions for Study Questions:** Answer each of the following questions, directly on the paper (or on the back of this paper if necessary), in at least 3 sentences. Be detailed and use textual evidence to support your answer where applicable.

1. What is Ayn Rand’s stance on judging for moral reasons? How do you know that is her stance? Explain using evidence from the text.

2. What qualities does a person have to possess in order to be a judge? Explain using textual evidence.

3. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement from Rand’s essay: “Judge and prepare to be judged” (32)? Explain why or why not.

4. How can “silence objectively be taken to mean agreement with or sanction of evil” (49-50)? Write about a time when you wish you would have spoken up. Why didn’t you speak up, and how may it have been different if you had spoken up in this situation?

5. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement from the Rand’s essay: “An irrational society of moral cowards…” (80)? Explain why or why not.