Go to www.borgerhighenglish2.net for Vocab Words!
Check off these boxes as you complete them:

AOW 2

- ☐ Put your name here: _____And also on the back. **(5 pts)**
- ☐ Highlight or underline important information **(5 pts)**
- ☐ Annotate by making comments in the margins, minimum of 5 **(5pts)**
- ☐ Define your vocabulary words in the designated vocabulary space by googling them or looking them up on the website **(10 pts)**
- ☐ **Goes into effect AOW 2:** List the kind of organizational pattern this article uses and why by filling in the template below:
  This article uses _____ because _____. (10 pts)
- ☐ Under prompt (bottom of page), plan 2 guiding reasons and 2 SPECIFIC, NAMED examples. **(10 pts)**
- ☐ Include a thesis with points A and B. Be sure to include two persuasive examples in body paragraphs, one in body paragraph 1 and another in body paragraph 2 **(10 pts)**
- ☐ Give a persuasive response to the WRITE statement at the bottom of the page by writing an essay on the back. Make sure to choose only ONE side of the argument in your writing. We NEVER write about both sides. **(up to 30 pts)**
- ☐ DO NOT USE "I" or "you" when writing your response. Form opinions WITHOUT IT. **(5 pts)**
- ☐ Make sure that your essay uses PARAGRAPHS. This means, 1. Indent 2. No skipping lines between paragraphs 3. A paragraph is MORE than just one sentence 4. Minimum of 4 paragraphs. **(10 pts)**

89, 263, 201, 500, 337, 480 by Marisa Brook

In 1885, an author named James B. Ward published a pamphlet telling of a long-lost treasure available to anyone clever enough to solve the puzzle associated with it. Ward reported that around 1817, a man named Thomas Jefferson Beale had been the leader of an expedition to the American Southwest primarily concerned with hunting buffalo and bears. Beale's group had instead stumbled upon gold and silver deposits in what is now Colorado. Agreeing to keep it all a secret, Beale's team had spent the better part of two years quietly mining, then had taken the metals to Virginia by wagon and buried them in a vault underground between 1819 and 1821.

The importance to understanding this mystery are with all the weird circumstances surrounding the story. Most importantly, Beale had written three notes explaining where the treasure was and who had legal rights to shares in it, encrypting each of these using a different text. However, Beale had vanished after leaving the notes with a friend.

The next strange detail is that eventually, the second of the three texts was deciphered using a slightly altered version of the Declaration of Independence. It specified which county in Virginia the treasure was hidden in, and referred the reader to the first of the notes for details.

The third strange fact is that the first—and the third—notes remained stubbornly un-deciphered. Neither the Declaration of Independence nor any other ciphertext source produced a readable message out of the first note. Beale had done far too good a job of encrypting his texts.

Or had he? Even as the field of cryptography advanced, and modern computers were invented and directed at the ciphers, the content remained frustratingly out of reach. The tantalizing mystery of where in Virginia there might be an enormous cache of treasure has turned into a broader question: Did Thomas J. Beale even exist, or was James B. Ward playing an enormous practical joke? The problem with the second interpretation is that Ward was not known to be a prankster. Could his pamphlet have been motivated by something stranger still?

Define vocabulary here:

Cause/effect:_____
Chronological order/sequencing:_____
Compare/Contrast:_____
Description/Categorization:_____
Problem/Solution:_____
Position/Reason:_____
Order of Importance:_____

WRITE an essay stating your position on whether people should believe in legends or not.

A: _____ → _____
B: _____ → _____
(Reason) *(Example)*

Name (needs to be on BOTH sides or points will be deducted): _____ AoW#: ____

STAAR WRITTEN COMPOSITION
EXAMPLE OF LINED PAGE

DO NOT WRITE OUTSIDE OF THE BOX