**Culminating Writing Task Directions**

Consider the title of the novel: *Out of the Dust*. How does the phrase “out of the dust” relate to a theme of the novel? To answer this question, write a literary analysis that includes a claim, supporting reasons, and several pieces of relevant text evidence.

To answer this question:

● Identify key events in *Out of the Dust* which involve Billie Jo and impact the course of events in the novel.

● Determine the role the setting and the dust play in each of those events.

● Examine the decisions Billie Jo makes and the outcomes of those decisions.

● Evaluate how those outcomes impact Billie Jo and lead her to change throughout the novel.

● Determine what it means literally and figuratively for Billie Jo to get “out of the dust.”

● Determine a theme of the novel, based on your analysis of the setting and Billie Jo’s changes over the course of the novel.

Include in­text citations. Be sure to use proper grammar, conventions, spelling, and grade­appropriate words and phrases.

**Grade 6: Out of the Dust**