**WORD MEANING RUBRIC**

**RL4.** Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone (e.g., how the language evokes a sense of time and place; how it sets a formal or informal tone).

**Meets Standard**

Responses are adequate, accurate and demonstrate ***grade level*** expectations

**Beginning**

Responses are too few, showing minimal understanding/application of the standard, ***progressing toward grade level*** expectations

**Nearly Meets Standard**

Responses are too brief sometimes incorrect, and/or obvious, at ***slightly below grade level*** expectations

**Exceeds Standard**

Responses are extended, insightful and complex; they demonstrate skills ***beyond grade level*** expectations

* Accurately determines most meanings of figurative language and word connotations
* Provides a logical analysis of how word choice and figurative language contribute to the tone and meaning of the text
* Rarely able to determine the meaning of figurative language and word connotations; incorrect and/or literal meaning given
* Attempts analysis but writes plot or summary of the text
* Not enough evidence to determine understanding or knowledge of the standard
* Determines the basic meaning of figurative language and word connotations; may be too vague, general or cliché’
* Provides overly general or simplistic analysis of how word choice and figurative language contribute to the tone and meaning of the text
* Accurately determines meanings of figurative language and word connotations
* Provides thorough, insightful analysis of how word choice and figurative language contribute to the tone and meaning of the text