EOC Practice Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Tao Te Ching, #2,* by Laotzu

*Tao Te Ching*: brief collection of sayings and poetry that teach the nature of Taoism. Laotzu wrote this collection with the intent to provide guidance to rulers who wish to rule wisely. “The *Tao Te Ching* has been translated more often than any other book in history except *The Bible”* (Tachuk 414).

**Read the poem excerpt below, paraphrase the stanzas in your own words, and answer the questions that follow. Complete all written work in WN – Writing Practice.**

**2 Notes/Annotation:**

*When people see some things as beautiful,*

*Other things become ugly.*

*When people see things as good,*

*Other things become bad.*

*Being and non-being create each other.*

*Difficult and easy support each other.*

*Long and short define each other.*

*Before and after follow each other.*

*Therefore the Master*

*acts without doing anything*

*and teaches without saying anything.*

*Things arise and she lets them come;*

*things disappear and she lets them go.*

*She has but doesn’t possess,*

*acts but doesn’t expect.*

*When her work is done, she forgets it.*

*That is why it lasts forever.*

1. Re-read stanzas one and two. Examine how the author uses opposites to convey the message; define paradox; explain what truth about life does Laotzu reveal through the paradoxes in these lines. Choose 2 to explain to partner. (RL.4- interpret words and phrases)
2. What is the Master’s approach to acting and teaching? (RL.10- understand literary text)
3. How does the author use word choice (diction) to create tone? Provide 3 examples of tone words and explain how each word and their tone affects the overall poem. (RL.4-tone)
4. What is the guidance/main idea of this passage? Summarize in your own words the author’s claim. (RL.9 – determining theme/central idea)
5. Provide textual evidence to support your claim in #4. (RL.9 – cite textual evidence)
6. How does the message of this poem relate to the experiences of Gilgamesh in the epic. Provide 2 specific details? (RL.9-texts share similar themes or topics)