

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Incoming 8th Grade Students

**Instructions:** First choose between *Red, White, and Whole* by Rajani LaRocca *or Iceberg* by Jennifer A. Nielsen. Choose **ONE** of the **THREE** prompts below. Your response must be **at least 3 full paragraphs**. Be sure to include specific examples from the book to support your ideas (**at least one quote or example** from the book) Write clearly and use complete sentences.

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### *Red, White, and Whole* - Writing Prompts (Choose One)

#### 1. Identity and Belonging

Reha struggles to balance her Indian heritage with the expectations of American culture.

➔ Write about a time when **you felt caught between two parts of your identity**, like family and school.

- How did you feel?
  - What choice did you make?
  - How is your experience similar or different from Reha's?
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#### 2. The Power of Words

This novel is written in verse—poetry instead of regular chapters.

➔ Explain how the format of the book helps you understand Reha's emotions.

- Choose at least one poem or line from the book to support your answer.
  - Would the book be better or worse in a different format?
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#### 3. Coping with Change and Loss

Reha's world changes when her mother becomes sick.

➔ Describe how Reha's relationship with her parents changes throughout the book.

- What does she learn about family, grief, or love?
- How do these lessons help her grow?

# ***Iceberg* – Writing Assignment Worksheet**

## **Writing Prompts (Choose One)**

### **1. Risk and Identity**

Hazel pretends to be someone she's not to pursue a better life and opportunity aboard the Titanic.

➔ **Prompt:** Have you ever felt like you had to hide or change part of who you are to fit in or achieve something?

- What did you do and why?
  - How does your experience compare to Hazel's decision?
  - What does this reveal about identity and ambition?
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### **2. Bravery in the Face of Disaster**

Hazel and many others must act quickly and bravely as the Titanic begins to sink.

➔ **Prompt:** Describe a moment in the book where Hazel (or another character) shows bravery.

- What actions do they take, and what risks are involved?
  - Why is this moment important to the story or character development?
  - What does this teach us about human courage?
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### **3. Social Class and Fairness**

The Titanic's passengers are treated very differently depending on their social class. Hazel sees this firsthand.

➔ **Prompt:** How does social class affect characters' chances of survival and treatment on the ship?

- What are some examples of unfairness in the novel?
- Do you think things like this still happen today?
- What would you have done if you were in Hazel's position?