

**Eng. 102JA – Fall 2021**  
**Prof. Ash**  
**Essay 2 - 30 points**  
**Due by Oct 24th**

A Piece of the Puzzle: A Character's Impact

For this essay, examine a character from one of the short stories we have studied. Explain your sense of how that character/setting functions in the text and impacts the reader's experience of the text. You could examine that impact in a variety of ways.

For example, if you are looking at a protagonist, then you could think about how what he wants or what she dreams about shapes the plot of the story.

For example, if you are looking at a minor character, then you could explore how that character functions to help develop a major character's personality or to establish plot or setting information.

For example, if you are looking at a character faced with a challenge or one who makes a difficult decision, then you could look at whether the reader can understand or identify with that circumstance.

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Whatever approach you take / argument you make, use specific textual evidence from the story to support your paper. Present and explain evidence clearly and specifically. Develop a clear sense of context for the illustrations you bring into your essay. Use specific vocabulary that we have discussed in class and that the textbook explains to add detail to your discussion (ex: dynamic, flat, antagonist, etc).

The relationship between your argument and the story you choose will form the basis of your thesis paragraph. The body of the essay will analyze and expand on that idea. If you can make a connection between your argument and the world or a current event, then that connection could enhance your paper. Your conclusion should not just summarize the paper; instead, think about what you learned while writing the paper and, perhaps, what new questions can be asked and answered.

The essay should be approximately 2-3 pages double-spaced in 12-point font and follow MLA formatting and include a Work Cited page. The essay must also have an original title that reflects its idea or its argument.