

**Eng. 109(MAH)/102(MR) -- Fall 2021 -- Prof. Ash**

**Essay 2 (30 points) Due by October 24th**

Find a Theme; Make an Argument

For this essay, present and examine a significant theme found in one of the short stories we have studied. Explain how your understanding of the theme answers the question "So what?" That is, how/why does the idea you pursue provide insight on how to think about the characters, plot, narrator, setting or other foundational element of the text. Even more broadly, how/does the theme you discuss shed light on the human experience.

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Use specific textual evidence from the story to support your argument about the theme you have chosen to explore and analyze. Present and explain evidence clearly and specifically. Develop a clear sense of context for the illustrations you bring into your essay. Whenever possible, use specific literary vocabulary that we have used in class and that the textbook explains.

In addition, you can make a connection between your argument and the world or current events. Support your thinking by bringing in specific illustrations. However, remember, the essay is not about current events. But, if you can find a link, you will add another layer of texture to your discussion.

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. Your conclusion will summarize the relevant ideas in the paper and explain what you learned while writing the paper.

The essay must be approximately 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.

Peace / Good luck

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