



11th Grade English – Test Out – Semester Two

Requirements

Prior to taking the exam:

- Read and be prepared to answer questions regarding *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald.
- Write and submit an MLA formatted 3-5 page literary analysis research paper. Instructions and rubric are attached.

Scoring

Test Score: ____/70

Essay Score: ____/100

Total Score: ____/170

Test Percentage: ____%

RESEARCH PAPER ENGLISH 11

Assignment: Students will read a novel and construct a literary analysis research paper based on that novel. Synthesize at least 3 secondary sources with your novel, the primary source, that expand upon your claim.

Novel Choices (all are available in HHS's media center):

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn by Mark Twain
The Bean Trees by Barbara Kingsolver
The Call of the Wild by Jack London
The Chocolate War by Robert Cormier
A Separate Peace by John Knowles
The Crucible by Arthur Miller
I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings by Maya Angelou
Of Mice and Men by John Steinbeck
A Raisin in the Sun by Lorraine Hansberry
Slaughterhouse-Five by Kurt Vonnegut

Paper Length: 3-4 pages, MLA formatted

- Your goal is to make readers accept your position and to provide compelling discussion and use of sources.
- Your analysis must be able to be **argued logically** (not just ethically or emotionally, although you may use those appeals along with logic).
- Your assertion needs to be supported by hard evidence rather than merely opinion. Leverage textual support from authors who have garnered respect over time as well as the primary document, the novel.
- Avoid common fallacies in making a logical argument to support your position.
- It is expected that you will use credible, accurate, and academically sound sources. A person who is blogging about human nature is not necessarily a source you would want to pull into this argument unless he or she has cited notable authors.
- Remember, strong literary criticism is going to consider the counterargument and respond to it. **(Prolepsis.)** Literary criticism is a form of an argument.
- Your essay must follow MLA guidelines – both formatting and citations.

Web resources should be academically sound. (This means do not use Wikipedia, eNotes, personal blogs, etc.) I suggest you check out Gale.net, this is a data base Howell Schools pays for. You will need a user name and an ID to get into this site. User ID is howe75124 and the password is howe75124.

We have provided materials to help you write this paper. Please note that although developing bibliography cards, note cards, and a working outline can help you gather ideas and organize your thoughts, which should help you write the actual paper, they are not required. The rubric that will be used to assess this paper is included.

Thesis Statement Development

Thesis Statement = the central idea you want to prove through your research.

Where to start:

1. Choose a main focus for your topic.
 - Theme
 - Style—naturalism, romanticism, transcendentalism, social criticism, satire
 - Relationship to author's life
 - Technical approach—character development, symbolism, irony, setting, imagery

2. Read what the critics have to say about the literature. A good place to start is Magill's Masterplots and Gale Research Company books of literary criticism. Now, narrow the focus of the general topic selected to something you want to prove through your research.
 - Example from The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
 - Main focus = setting
 - Narrowed = Mississippi River
 - Thesis Statement = In The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Mark Twain uses the Mississippi River as a unifying force in Huck's rite of passage into adulthood.

3. Develop your thesis statement. Characteristics of a strong thesis statement are as follows:
 - Sentence form (not a question)
 - 3rd person
 - general format = In (your novel), (your author) uses _____ to show _____.

EXAMPLES EXAMPLES EXAMPLES EXAMPLES EXAMPLES EXAMPLES

In The Scarlet Letter, Hawthorne uses the development of the three main characters to show the consequences of sin.

In The Crucible, Miller uses the setting to reflect the theme that fear and suspicion can lead to a breakdown of social order.

In The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Twain uses Huck and Jim's flight down the Mississippi to affirm his belief that man needs to return to nature and to his natural self.

The Working Bibliography Bibliography Cards

The Working Bibliography-Use a system that will help you keep track of the sources you use. Here is one way to do this:

Before beginning actual research on your paper, compile a list of all the sources available on your topic. Why? You need to ensure that you can find enough research materials on your novel. In addition, this often helps you to find a thesis statement.

1. Skim the material to get an idea of the specific focus of the information. You may want to make a brief note of this on the back of your bib card so you will know what information you will find in each source.
2. **DON'T BE SATISFIED ONCE YOU HAVE FOUND THE 3 REQUIRED SOURCES.**

Writing Your Bib Cards:

1. Use 3 X 5 index cards. (Now there are online sites available for keeping your notes if you want to do so.)
2. Record all pertinent information on the card according to MLA guidelines. **THE INFORMATION ON YOUR CARD SHOULD APPEAR EXACTLY AS IT WILL APPEAR ON YOUR WORKS CITED PAGE.** Be neat and precise to avoid errors when you type your works cited page. A wonderful source for MLA format information is OWL PURDUE. There are also Youtube videos by OWL PURDUE that go over all aspects of MLA formatting.
3. Record the library call number or webpage in the upper left-hand corner of the card. (Library location can be noted on the upper right-hand corner if you are using more than one library.)
4. On the back of the cards, briefly indicate what you find in the source. This will help you for future reference.

SAMPLE BIB CARD:

R	(HHS Media)
809	
<u>TCLC</u>	
<p>Phelps, William. "Mark Twain." <u>Twentieth Century Literary Criticism</u>. Vol. 14. Ed. Dennis Poupard. Detroit: Gale, 1990. 353.</p>	
(see OWL PURDUE for MLA Works Cited Format for a variety of sources)	
your code here	

NOTE-TAKING & NOTE CARD INSTRUCTIONS

Your finished paper will be comprised of your own ideas and conclusions drawn from your analysis of the book and notes from your research blended with direct information from your sources. The notes will be used to provide documentation and proof in support of your thesis.

Note Card Format:

1. Use a 4 X 6 note card. These are large enough to accommodate longer notes and will not be confused with bibliography cards. (Again, online options for note-taking are available.)
2. Write down only **one idea or quotation per card**. Only write on one side. If notes are longer than one card allows, staple two cards together.
3. Identify the **source of the note in the upper left-hand corner** of the card. Since the bibliography cards contain the complete information of your source, you do not need to fully document on these cards also.
4. **BE SURE TO USE QUOTATION MARKS WHEN COPYING THE SOURCE DIRECTLY. THIS WILL PREVENT ACCIDENTAL PLAGIARISM.**

KINDS OF NOTES

THE SUMMARY

After reading the source, condense (shorten) pertinent facts and record them on the note card in your own words. Use common sense to determine when facts do not need to be recorded in detail. It is not as likely that you will utilize this form of note-taking.

****THE PARAPHRASE****

This does not condense the material read, but rather restates it in your own words. (Avoid using the same style as the source.) This is probably the most commonly used type of note. This is valuable because you must understand and assimilate the material in order to rephrase it. This also makes it easier to assimilate your notes into the style of the paper that you will be writing.

****THE QUOTATION****

This reproduces the author's words **EXACTLY**. Make sure you use the quote in the proper context. Be sure to copy the quote exactly as it is written. You can also write a personal note at the bottom of this card to remind you why you are writing this down. For example, how does this help you prove your thesis? Believe me, it's amazing how much we can forget when it comes time to write the essay. Leave yourself **PLENTY** of notes. More information is better than not enough! ☺

THE PERSONAL COMMENT

Record any ideas you have while you are researching. These may be thoughts that clarify an idea, identify any inconsistencies, stress a point etc. It is very important to jot these notes down when you think of them. **DON'T WAIT UNTIL YOU BEGIN WRITING YOUR PAPER TO DECIDE HOW THESE WILL ALL FIT TOGETHER.** These ideas you have while you research will be priceless later!!!

****Paraphrase now, save time later.** If you write all your information from your sources as direct quotes, it leaves you with more work when you actually write your paper later. I strongly recommend that you spend the extra time in the library and paraphrase many of your quotes now. Before you do this, look over the section in this packet on plagiarism so you can be sure to avoid it.**

SAMPLE—PARAPHRASE:

<u>Char. 20th CL-2</u>	Huck's Adventure
<p style="text-align: center;">Through his adventure, Huck struggles with good and evil, right and wrong, and the cruelty of human nature through first hand experience. He matures in his understanding of life (407).</p>	
II	

SAMPLE—DIRECT QUOTE WITH SUMMARY and PERSONAL NOTE

<u>Char. 20th CL -2</u>	Freedom
<p>"Huck's self-declaration as being "uncivilized" is his way of disagreeing with the values of the society in which he lives"(56).</p> <p><i>This quote expresses that Huck is declaring his freedom and identity and he will no longer stand for being "civilized,"</i></p>	
T	

THE WORKING OUTLINE

The working outline is simply a very general outline. In your thesis you will find a key word or phrase. For example, review the following thesis regarding The Scarlet Letter:

In The Scarlett Letter, Hawthorne uses the **development of the three main characters** to show the consequences of sin.

This thesis tells your reader that you will be discussing each of the three main characters. The working outline for this thesis could look like this:

- I. Dimmesdale
- II. Chillingworth
- III. Hester

Note:

Your goal should be to find **5 aspects or subdivisions of your thesis**. This usually ensures that you will have enough information to complete the 3-4 page research paper. However, this is not always possible with every novel. Just use this as a general guideline.

If your thesis states that you will be following one character's development, your outline would include the various stages in that character's development.

- I. young child
- II. adolescent
- III. motherhood
- IV. grandmother
- V. elderly

If you will discuss how the setting of your novel reflects a theme, you should list 5 aspects of the setting that contributes to the given theme.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

The working outline is a guide—it is not set in stone. This will help you pull information that will prove useful as you take notes on your sources. Your working outline will likely change a bit as you get into your sources a bit more.

THE FORMAL OUTLINE

The outline is an ordered listing of the topics covered in the paper. Do not outline the introduction or the conclusion. Begin with a statement of thesis as shown in the following example:

Thesis Statement

I. Main Idea

A. Sub Idea

1. Division of a Sub Idea
2. Division of a Sub Idea

B. Sub Idea

1. Division of a Sub Idea
2. Division of a Sub Idea

II. Main Idea

- Every idea divided must have at least 2 parts.
- Each corresponding part should be equal in importance.
- Each entry should be worded in the same grammatical form.

There are two types of outlines, **topic** and **sentence**.

The topic outline—words each entry as a phrase, breaking down the subject into major subheadings.

Example:

III. Characteristics of Cather's heroines

A. Strength of Will and Purpose

B. Independence from Family and Society

The sentence outline—uses a complete grammatical sentence for each entry. (Notice, each entry ends with a period.)

III. Cather's heroines are all superior women of epic stature, protagonists with "tenacious wills and an extraordinary capacity for struggle."

A. They refuse to accept conventional roles.

B. Their aspirations bring them into conflict with family and society.

Formal Outline Example

Your Name

Instructor

Class

20 March 2002

Cather's Heroic Ideals in her novel My Antonia

Thesis: An examination of the protagonists in My Antonia reveals the development of Cather's heroic ideal.

- I. Cather's novels about the West
 - A. Her concern with pioneer life
 - B. The symbolic importance of her heroines
- II. Characteristics of heroines
 - A. Strength of will and purpose
 - B. Independence from family and society
- III. The heroine of My Antonia
 - A. Her sense of mission
 - B. Fulfillment in devotion to land
 - C. Appreciation of Old World culture
 - D. Sacrifice of personal relationships

Parenthetical Citations

MLA style requires placing the parenthetical reference at the end of the sentence, but before the final period. Note: there is no punctuation mark between the author's name and the page citation. You have two choices when you want to cite material.

Example:

In our rapidly changing world, "new aspects of the national personality may be suddenly brought to light by a political or military event" (Hardwick 130-131).

OR

Hardwick observes that in our rapidly changing world, "new aspects of the national personality may be suddenly brought to light by a political or military event" (130-131).

In some cases, you may want to place the reference within your sentence to clarify which portion of the sentence it documents. In these cases, place the reference at the end of a clause but before the necessary punctuation.

Examples:

"New aspects of the national personality may be suddenly brought to light by a political or military event" (Hardwick 130-131), although other prominent sociologists believe that such aspects may be short lived.

OR

Hardwick observes that "new aspects of the national personality may be suddenly brought to light by a political or military event" (130-131), although other prominent sociologists believe that such aspects may be short lived.

When dealing with a long quote, the parenthetical reference should be at the end of the quote, after the period. Other rules to remember when using a long quote:

- Three spaces should separate the quote from you body text.
- Indent 10 spaces from the left margin.
- Double-space the quote.
- Long quotes are quotes that exceed 3 lines of typed text.
- No more than 2 long quotes allowed in your research paper.
- Do not use quote marks " " around long quotes.

Example of a long quote:

Elizabeth Hardwick doubts the permanence of any opinions about national character in a rapidly changing world:

(1”) Now, when the outside world seems to change more rapidly and more drastically than ever before, the amount of revision the busy opinionizer will be in for is too much to be practical. Even such a profound matter as the education of the young was changed. This quote would continue on through this line. Notice that there are no quotes used in this format. Notice that I have indented 10 spaces. (130-131)

Now, you would resume your paragraph here. Notice that I did not indent. Can you see that there are three spaces above and below my text that is set apart from the rest? Also notice the one inch indent for the left margin.

****See OWL PURDUE for more examples
(web source, one author, two or more authors, lectures, no authors etc)****

Helpful Hints for Using Quotes

- **Interpolations**—If it is necessary to include a personal comment or explanation within a quote, it must be placed in a bracket. [like this]
- **Ellipsis**—three dots . . . with a space before and after each dot.

Example:

The original material is as follows and you wish to omit the italicized portions:

“I had passing alone, *on horseback*, through a singularly dreary tract of country, *and at length found myself*, as the shades of evening drew on, within view of the melancholy house of Usher.”

Appears as:

“I had been passing alone . . . through a singularly dreary tract of country . . . as the shades of evening drew on, within view of the melancholy house of Usher.”

Helpful Phrases

These are meant to help you put your ideas on paper. You are not required to use all of these in your research paper. In addition, these are not necessarily to be used exactly as presented here.

Reference to an example in the novel:

1. This is shown in the (action of some kind)
2. This concept is illustrated when (something happened)
3. His (a character) courage (any trait) could be seen when (something happened)
4. This style is apparent in the passage where
5. The author's attitude toward this is shown when
6. This can be seen in (character's name)'s own words when
7. (character's name) state this clearly by
8. Simply describe a scene or character and follow up with an explanation of its significance.

Reference to critical comment:

1. (critic's name) comments on this by pointing out
2. (critic's name) states
3. (critic's name) mentions
4. (critic's name) observes

Preparing the Final Draft General Information

- Essays must be printed out on white 8 ½ x 11 inch paper (one side only)
- Use black ink only!!!
- One inch margins on all sides of the page
- Use a standard, 12 point font (No fancy or script—Times New Roman is the one to use.)
- Do not forget your header—start this on your very first page (last name and page number)
- Indent ½ inch at the beginning of each paragraph
- Double-space your paper.
- Do not justify text.
- Do not use a report cover please!

Title Page

- The title page is not separate from your essay. MLA style requires that the title and student information be located on the first page of the paper rather than on a separate page.
- Beginning at the one inch margin, the following information should be typed in the upper left-hand corner, double spaced—your full name, instructor's name, course title and date (day month year)
- Double space the entire document. Center the title.
- What information should be in my title? Analytical research paper titles normally contain the title and author and genre of the literature and focus the reader's expectations on the subject of the paper.
- Use no abbreviations for class name, instructor's name or month....always avoid abbreviations in formal essays.

Webster Sample Page

Ms. Webster

Advanced American Literature

12 April 2006

Huck's Quest for Freedom in Twain's novel The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

This is where your paper will begin with a quote. Continue typing with one inch margins, double spaced. Notice I did not underline my entire title. Notice the font I chose for my paper. It is not fancy or difficult to read. At this point you will continue to write your essay. Also, notice when I began to type this paragraph, I indented ½ an inch.

Final Works Cited Page Information:

- This page should contain only those works actually cited in the paper. In this case the **MINIMUM** required works to be cited is **FOUR (THREE will be secondary)**.
- Works must be cited on a separate page, which is numbered consecutively with the paper.
- Continue to use one-inch margins and double spacing.
- Title the page **Works Cited**

- Works should be typed in alphabetical order. In cases where there are two or more works by the same author, works should be alphabetized by the article title. The author's name should be eliminated from the entry and replaced with three hyphens followed by a period. In cases where you do not have an author, use the first piece of significant information to alphabetize.
- Works should be punctuated exactly as shown on your approved bibliography cards.
- Begin the first line of an entry flush left, and indent successive lines one half inch. (approx. 5 spaces.)

- If you are citing a book whose title includes the title of another book, underline the main title, but **DO NOT** underline the other title. (Twentieth Century Interpretations of The Scarlet Letter)
- Use lowercase abbreviations to identify the parts of a work. However, when these follow a period, they should be capitalized. (vol. Ed. Trans.)
- This portion requires precision. **PROPER PUNCTUATION IS REQUIRED TO EARN FULL CREDIT.**

(updated 6/2014 dw)

Name: _____

Research Paper Grading Rubric—English 11 Test Out

Purpose...../10

- Thesis I F M E
- Clarity and Development of Thesis I F M E

Rhetorical Choices..... /70

- Thesis is logically supported/explored/free of fallacies I F M E
- Argument presents opposing views/concessions I F M E
- Primary source use develops/strengthens argument I F M E
- Secondary source use develops/strengthens argument I F M E
- Evidence/quote use (set up, explain, relating to thesis) I F M E
- Diction and Syntax I F M E
- Organization I F M E
 - Evidence of specific, purposeful choices that serve to highlight, enhance, or otherwise improve the effectiveness of the purpose of the essay.

MLA Format/20

- First page: date, name, title etc I F M E
- In text citation I F M E
- Works Cited I F M E

SUB TOTAL: _____

_____ *(deductions due to mechanical/grammatical errors)*

TOTAL : _____/100

NOTE: The following will result in loss of credit for the assignment (and note that this assignment is REQUIRED to earn credit for English 11):

- **Plagiarism**
- **Failure to use 3 outside sources and the primary source in the essay**
- **Failure to write an essay that is literary criticism/argument**

I = Insufficient F = Fair M = Meets Expectations E = Exceeds Expectations