You are to write a literary response essay. This is where you analyze literature and write an essay about a key point about that work or works. Analytical essays can either be expository or argumentative. You are to use literature you have read in your English classes thus far (novels, poems, short stories, plays…); you could use a song (school appropriate) that you enjoy, a speech, or a novel/short story/poem you have read outside of school that you enjoyed. Do not use children’s books. Remember that literary analysis essays are NEVER summaries. You may not reuse an essay done for another class.

**Requirements:**

* MLA format
	+ Works cited page, heading, header, Times New Roman size 12, double spaced, typed, in-text citations, title
* 2 full page **minimum**
* 1-2 quotes from your primary source per body paragraph.
* 1 quote from your secondary source per body paragraph.
* Shows in depth thought about chosen literature
	+ Ex: discussing theme, character development, symbolism, tone/mood, how the author’s life compares to events from the story, etc.
* Your essay is YOUR own thoughts about the work you’ve selected
* Is written formally
* Meets the requirements of a literary analysis essay
* At least one primary source (your text)
* At least one secondary source (an article someone reliable has written) to back up your point
* Is an actual literary analysis and NOT a summary of the selected text.
* Quotes are woven or introduced

**Due Dates:**

**It is your responsibility to meet these due dates. If you are absent on a day where an assignment is checked, YOU must be the one to show you did the work.**

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Outline:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

RD1: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

RD2:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Final Draft:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Essays turned in AFTER the start of class = 10% off**

**Essays handwritten or turned in one day later = 50% off**

**Pick ONE of the following prompts for your literary response essay.**

1. The theme of a literary piece is the central idea or message that it delivers. Using your selected text/s, discuss what the central theme is and how the author demonstrated the theme throughout the text.
2. Using a work of literature you have read, describe what makes a hero/heroine and if the work you selected has their protagonist as a true hero/heroine.
3. Foreshadowing is when the author gives hints to the reader about what is going to take place later in the work. Using a piece of literature with which you are familiar, explain how the author uses foreshadowing and how the use of foreshadowing enhanced the plot.
4. Death has been symbolized many different ways in prose and poetry. Using either of these genres, discuss the symbols that authors use when they write about death. Describe the impact of these symbols.
5. Discuss how the author included his/her own life events into their story/characters.
6. Discuss how the point of view affects the story.
7. Discuss how the pattern/structure/rhythm of the poem/song affects the piece.

**If there is something not on this list that you want to use for your literary analysis essay, please ask.**

**Suggested texts**

* “My Last Duchess” by Robert Browning
* “A Story of an Hour” by Kate Chopin
* “The Raven” by Edgar Allan Poe
* *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald
* *Animal Farm* by George Orwell
* *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding
* “The Yellow Wallpaper” by Charlotte Perkins Gillman
* Sonnet 130 by William Shakespeare
* “The Veldt” by Ray Bradbury
* “Marionettes” by Ray Bradbury
* “Helen” by H.D.
* “To Helen” by Edgar Allan Poe
* “The Most Dangerous Game” by Richard Connell
* *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck