

SAMPLE CASE STUDY

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Your paper should include the page number in the upper right hand portion of every page. This can be easily achieved by going to "Insert," "Page Number," "Top of Page," and then selecting "Plain Number 3."

Animals as Equals in Science Fiction

Student Name

Columbia Southern University

Course Name

Instructor Name

Date

This case study is modelled after some of the most common case study assignments here at CSU.

Keep in mind that while some case study assignments will look like this, not all of them will.

In those circumstances, pay particular attention to the questions that your assignment is asking you to answer or the issues it wants you to address: These will become your level headings. This is the assignment that this sample paper is responding to:

Use the resource below:

Clements, J. (2015). How science fiction helps us reimagine our moral relations with animals. *Journal of Animal Ethics*, 5(2) 181.

Then, write a case study that answers the following questions:

- What types of characters are defined as "animal" in literature?
- What real-world societal problems do such characters address?

APA 7th edition allows for a variety of different font choices for papers. Options include Times New Roman (size 12), Calibri (size 11), Arial (size 11), Lucida Sans Unicode (size 10), and Georgia (size 11). This example paper is written in Times New Roman, size 12.

The same font and font size should be used throughout the entire paper.

The full title of the paper is repeated here, bolded and centered.

Animals as Equals in Science Fiction

In her article “How Science Fiction Helps Us Reimagine Our Moral Relations with Animals,” Jennifer Clements (2015) details several science fiction writers who bring animals and animalistic characters to the forefront of their works. While it is an oft-ignored genre, science fiction tends to be filled with satires and metaphors that act as calls to action for the more attentive reader. Of these metaphors, one of the most popular is the animalistic character. The

The thesis acknowledges both of the issues prompted in the assignment, and provides brief answers to them.

ch classics as *Frankenstein*, *The Island of Doctor Moreau*, and (2015). These novels all utilize their respective animal characters to of humanity. Science fiction very rarely focuses on true animals.

More often, these animals are some sort of hybrid between the natural creature and man, giving them the higher thinking necessary to comment upon a multitude of societal issues, especially those of discrimination and segregation.

The Animal as a Character

One of the most legendary stories not only in science fiction but in literature is Mary Shelley’s *Frankenstein: Or the Modern Prometheus*. The creature in *Frankenstein* have badly skewed the original story. The creature, an innocent and largely peaceful being has, for the most part, been portrayed in many counterparts in the genre; they are feared for their monstrous appearance or origins, and yet, they are kind, thoughtful, and intelligent. The animalistic character is meant to represent the

Notice that both of the body paragraphs’ level headings respond to questions from the prompt. Refer back to the assignment:

What type of creatures are referred to as “animal” in literature?

Since this passage answers that question, it receives a heading. These headings can either be a reworded version of your assignment’s original question, like this one, or indicate your response to the question or issue.

particularly ironic since, in an overwhelming majority of such tales, humans created these creatures through their own scientific prowess (Clements, 2015). These origin stories cause a dilemma for readers: Siding with the animal character feels like a betrayal to mankind, but

When paraphrasing a key point in more than one sentence within a paragraph, **cite the source in the first sentence in which it is relevant and do not repeat the citation within that paragraph** as long as the source remains clear and unchanged.

challenges the re
themselves.

This level heading answers this question:

What real-world societal problems do such characters address?

different from

The Animal as a Representative of Societal Problems

In *Frankenstein*, the creature acts as an example of “the moral wrongs that newly expanding scientific frontiers made possible” (Clements, 2015, para.2); while this topic remains especially relevant with the advent of artificial intelligence on the horizon, it is not necessarily at the forefront of human thought in the twenty-first century. For much of the lesser known writer Cordwainer Smith’s body of work, however, the issues at hand are much more similar to those of modern America. Smith centers many of his short stories on the conflicts between the Underpeople (an animal-derived human) and the True Men, who, true to genre stereotypes, created the Underpeople in their own image. The conflicts between the Underpeople and the True Men are blatant analogies for racism and religious persecution, and are especially effective in their execution. Smith’s stories (and those of similar works) represent a “continual... negotiation (not denial) of difference” (Clements, 2015, para. 1).

Conclusions are critical in all academic papers. This is where you will tie together all of your thoughts and main points made about your subheadings.

Conclusion

Animal characters serve to represent not what humanity is, but what it has the potential to become. The origin of these characters is typically man, representing the fact that hate and evil are uniquely human attributes. These problems, originating with man, must end with man to create a more enlightened and caring being. The animal is used as a representative of these problems because of their relative goodness compared to humans; they have no wars and no hatred with which they are born. The lessons illustrated by these skilled authors, centering upon these idealistic beings, are critically important in learning to overcome such major issues as racism and homophobia, uniquely caused and perpetuated by humanity alone.

The word "References" should be centered at the top of the page and is boldface.

References

Clements, J. (2015). How science fiction helps us reimagine our moral relations with animals.

Journal of Animal Ethics, 5(2) 181.

If you have any generalized questions about your references page, refer to the [APA Citation Guide](#).



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