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ENG 102

ESSAY #1*** DUE October 11th***

LATE PAPERS DO NOT GET REVISION AND LOSE POINTS

3 PAGES, DOUBLE SPACED, SIZE 12 TIMES NEW ROMAN

USE TWO OUTSIDE SOURCES (NOT INCLUDING THE TEXT!) AND QUOTE THE PRIMARY TEXTS AS WELL.

Refer to the class blog for outside source info: eng102fall2018.blogspot.com/

ONLY RELIABLE SOURCES!—Pick ONE of the essay topics below for your paper.

Assimilation

1. Use examples from *The Namesake*, "Two Kinds", "Brave We Are" and from your own experience if it applies (and limit it to one paragraph) to explain the "new American" experience and the challenges of assimilation. Use examples from the texts along with outside sources to support your thesis. You must use at least one of the short stories as an example for this question.
2. We discussed how symbols were used in "Brave We Are" this week for the issues new Americans face. Discuss three (the meal, the song, the poem) of those symbols and explain their importance in the story. Use examples from the texts along with outside sources to support your thesis.
3. In "Two Kinds" the mother puts a lot of pressure on her daughter to do well. This can be referred to as her "putting all her eggs in one basket". Explain how she attempts to shape her daughter's life in the story. Use examples from the texts along with outside sources to support your thesis. There are sources on the blog that discuss the pressure some Asian parents put on their children to succeed in school. These would work well as outside sources.
4. Food is clearly important in all cultures and we see that in "Brave We Are" and to a lesser extent in *The Namesake*; using examples from both of those texts OR JUST "Brave We Are" and two outside sources, explain what role food plays in culture. Use examples from the texts along with outside sources to support your thesis.

Identity

5. Newark plays an important role in "Live For Today." Using the links on the blog about crime in Newark or articles you find on your own, explain how the story uses Newark's negative reputation to tell the story. Use examples from the texts along with outside sources to support your thesis.
6. Explain how the dead victims in "Live For Today" and the lawn jockeys from "Mrs. Turner's Lawn Jockeys" function as symbolic in each of their stories. In other words, explain how their communication with the main characters from each story is important. Use examples from the texts along with outside sources to support your thesis.

7. Bernie and Emma put on black shoe polish so they will not be seen when they sneak out at night to paint the lawn jockeys white. Why could this been seen as symbolic? What is your understanding of blackface? Later on, Bernie says they are invisible—could there be more to that? Use examples from the texts along with outside sources to support your thesis.
8. When they see their father in the kitchen as they are attempting to paint the jockeys, Bernie says to himself that his father is “thinking about who he used to be, who he is, who people think he is, and who he wants to become” (79). What does this mean? Use examples from the texts along with outside sources to support your thesis.
9. Pick NO MORE THAN THREE characters from “Live For Today”, “Mrs. Turner’s Lawn Jockeys” or *Lion* and explain how their identity is shaped or explained in their story. Use examples from the texts along with outside sources (links about identity on blog) to support your thesis.

Your Last Name 4

Works Cited

Lion. Dir. Garth Davis. Weinstein, 2017.DVD.

Naqvi, Tahira. “Brave We Are.” *Exploring Literature*. Ed. Frank Madden. 5th ed. New York: Longman, 2012. 928-932. Print.

Raboteau, Emily. “Mrs. Turner’s Lawn Jockeys.” *Mixed: An Anthology of Short Fiction on the Multiracial Experience*. Ed. Rebecca Walker. 1st ed. New York: Norton, 2006. 69-81.. Print.

Soloman, S.A. “Live For Today.” *New Jersey Noir*. Ed. Joyce Carol Oates. New York: Akashic, 2011. 27-39. Print.

Tan, Amy. “Two Kinds.” *Literature: A Portable Handbook*. Ed. Gardner, Janet E.3RD ed. Boston: Bedford, 2013. 382-391. Print.

The Namesake. Dir. Mira Nair. Fox Searchlight Pictures, 2007. DVD.

- An introduction that states my thesis, the author or authors of the text I am writing about and the title of those texts AND DOES NOT INCLUDE ANY QUOTES
- Body paragraphs that use outside sources and examples from the text to support my thesis
- A conclusion that restates my thesis and does NOT include quotes from the text or any new information
- A works cited page that follows MLA guidelines as shown in the handout

Your Name

Your Last Name 1

Prof. O'Connell

Eng 102

10 October 2018

Put Your Title Here

Here is where your introduction should begin. After your title, skip one line and begin writing. Your professor will be able to tell when you have skipped five lines to take up more space. Your introduction is where you should introduce the title of the text by the author of that text or texts you will be writing about. For example, In "Sonny's Blues" by James Baldwin or *A Raisin in the Sun* by Lorraine Hansberry there are many example of hope. Notice that "short stories" (as well as poems) get quotation marks while plays (as well as novels and films) are *italicized*. You should also mention or introduce what you will be discussing in your paper in your introduction. Your thesis should be clearly laid out toward the end of your introduction. It should very clearly state to the reader what you intend to cover in the paper. For example, there are many symbols in *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald, but perhaps none so evident and as metaphorically powerful as the eyes on the billboard. While this symbol seems to play a marginal role, it actually holds far deeper significance to the novel's intent. Avoid stating that "you will discuss such and such in this paper" or "I will explain so and so below." The thesis statement provides the framework for the entire paper.

Your Last Name 2

As stated in the essay question handouts, you must quote the primary text and your outside sources. Do not use any quotes that are longer than four lines since the papers are only three pages. Simply insert the quote into the paragraph. Like this: "I'm glad Mama and Daddy are dead and can't see what's happened to their son" (Baldwin 215). Notice that the period comes after the citation in this case and that proper credit is given to the source.

Always explain the quotes in your own words! Explain how this quote strengthens and proves your thesis. If a quote does not do that, do not use it. You will notice that I did not begin a new paragraph after quoting an outside source. You should never have a quote end a paragraph. If you do, you are allowing the quotes to speak for you and the whole purpose of a research paper is for you to explain what your analysis is of a given text or texts. Also notice that the block quote is also double spaced and that the period comes before the citation.

Do not copy and paste information from an unreliable internet source and act like you wrote it. Do not get a paper off the internet and act like it is yours. I will be using Turnitin.com this semester to check your papers. Any paper that plagiarizes in any way will receive an F. You cannot do it over or fix it. If you do it again, you will fail the class. Only use reliable outside sources and be sure to always give credit to the sources. The outside sources must be quoted in the same way you quote the primary texts (anything in the packet).

My hope is that by laying out some of the rules in this format you will become more comfortable with the rules of MLA. The final paragraph of your essay is called your conclusion. It is a good idea to go over what you said in your thesis statement in order to suggest to your reader that you have accomplished what you set out to accomplish. Do

not, in any case, simply restate your thesis statement in your final paragraph, as that would be redundant. Having read your essay, we should understand this main thought with fresh and deeper understanding, and your conclusion wants to reflect what we have learned. The conclusion is no place to bring up new ideas. This is where you will tie in the issues covered in your paper and how they relate to your primary sources.

Works Cited

Douthat, Ross. "When Assimilation Stalls." *The New York Times*. The New York Times, 27 Apr. 2013. Web. 4 May. 2015.

The Namesake. Dir. Mira Nair. Fox Searchlight Pictures, 2007. DVD.

Naqvi, Tahira. "Brave We Are." *Exploring Literature*. Ed. Frank Madden. 5th ed. New York: Longman, 2012. 928-932. Print.

Tan, Amy. "Two Kinds." *Exploring Literature*. Ed. Frank Madden. 5th ed. New York: Longman, 2012. 263-271. Print.

YOU MUST INCLUDE WHATEVER OUTSIDE SOURCES YOU USE IN YOUR WORKS CITED AS WELL!

THIS WEBSITE WILL HELP: www.easybib.com