Essay #2: Literary Analysis Guidelines
**Due Date**: Friday, October 22

**Literary Analysis:** The purpose of a literary analysis is to carefully examine a work of literature utilizing literary elements to draw a connection between the plot, the characters' behavior and the changes in their role in the text. For this essay, you are to use the corresponding literary elements for each short story and your textbook (in-text citations/primary source) to develop an essay on either:

1. **Topic One**: "The Birth-Mark" – use symbolism, climax and resolution to develop the essay.

**Or**

2. **Topic Two**: "The Story of an Hour" –conflict (state the specific type), theme and resolution.

**Submission Guidelines:**

- **Blackboard**: upload a copy of your final draft via Blackboard by **11:59 p.m. on Friday, October 22.**

**Note: SparkNotes and unreliable sources from the internet are unacceptable!!!**

**Outline Format for Literary Analysis Essay**

Name Last Name 1

Professor

English 1302-XX

Day Month Year

Catchy Title (not the title of the work/no punctuation)

I. Paragraph 1: Introduction

a. Author
b. Title
c. Main characters
d. A brief summary (do not retell the story; provide an analysis-remember the reporter's questions)
e. Holistic Thesis

II. Paragraph 2: First Body Paragraph- Topic sentence (include a clear, concise sentence that addresses the literary element).

a. Provide support for your thesis statement by incorporating an analysis, statements and evidence (in-text citations).

III. Paragraph 3: Second Body Paragraph- Topic sentence (include a clear, concise sentence that addresses the literary element).

a. Provide support for your thesis statement by incorporating an analysis, statements and evidence (in-text citations).

IV. Paragraph 4: Third Body Paragraph- Topic sentence (include a clear, concise sentence that addresses the literary element).

a. Provide support for your thesis statement by incorporating an analysis, statements and evidence (in-text citations).

V. Conclusion (You do not necessarily have to follow this order, but include the following):

a. Summarize your argument.
b. Restate the thesis.
c. Discuss the overall resolution as it pertains to significant characters and/or elements of the plot.

**Works Cited Page:**

- Since you are using the text as your primary source for the essay, you must include a work cited page at the end of your essay.

**Write Rules**

1. Include a proper heading on all assignments:

Last Name 1

Name

Mrs. Douglas-Butler

English 1302-XX (include your section number here)

Day Month Year (due date of assignment)

2. Give your essay a specific title that relates to the essay topic. Your title is never the essay prompt! Do not italicize, underline or put quotes around your title.

3. Use 8 ½ by 11" white paper. Skip lines (double space) throughout your essay. Also, use 12 font and Times New Roman.

4. Use blue or black ink only (written essays).

5. Do not use contractions in essays.

6. Do not use slang in essays.
7. No extra words: Avoid extra words that have no meaning: "well anyway, you know, etc.

8. Don't write "I think" or "in my opinion" because I know this it is your idea or opinion because it is your paper.

9. Never use profanity in essays! No matter how passionate you feel about a subject, find another way to project or express your thoughts.

10. Write essays in 3rd person only. 3rd person is: he, she, it, they, them and one. (Remember audience/purpose: some assignments may require the use of first-person (narrative or critique); however, this will be done with instructor approval).

11. Write essays in present tense.

12. Quotations: Never copy an author's words without using quotations and crediting the source.

13. If you have a problem with spelling, always consult a dictionary.

14. Proofread your essay before turning it in.

15. Your essay may be an analysis, an interpretation, an evaluation, or an argument, but it should not be a sermon.