

English 1301/ Fall 2020
Betty Taylor-Thompson, Ph.D.
Final Research Assignment:

Story : “A Good Man is Hard to Find” by Flannery O’ Connor

Title: Using four characters in the story (You must include the Misfit, Grandmother, and two other character(s) of your choice, describe what the author is saying about basic human nature and personality traits. (Something to think about is whether the characters are good or evil).

Style: MLA Format with both intext citations and a matching Works Cited Page

References: Three critical references excluding the story and biographical references to the author.

1. All papers should be titled and the organization and body of your

paper should always reflect the title. **Do not title your paper “A Good Man is Hard to Find” Choose an innovative title that comes from your thesis statement.**

2. The introduction should have an underlined **thesis statement** which clearly states what your paper is about. **ALWAYS WRITE ABOUT THE, story IN THE PRESENT TENSE. EX:** In the story, the character plays a harp while he witnesses the murder of his wife. **Get approval of your thesis from the instructor before you attempt to write the paper.**

A. The introduction should give information on the general themes and

subjects which your paper will specifically talk about in subsequent paragraphs. Example: what are the primary characteristics and attitudes of the character The Misfit. This is the place for historical background of the times and the characters.

B. The second part should give biographical information on the author and demonstrate his connection with the themes in the novel. You may use information from your essay on the author.

The facts about the author's life (biographical material) and historical material concerning the times in which the author wrote should only

take two to four paragraphs. **This information must be documented**

C. The next part of the paper should give information on setting, conflict, and themes found in each work.

D. The next part should give a short one paragraph description of the plot. (**SHORT**)

E. The next paragraph should explain the primary (theme(s)) and demonstrate what actions or events in the story support your conclusion about the theme(s). For example, the theme is selfishness, greed, and death because

3. The longest part of the term paper should analyze the literary topic (human nature and personality) assigned with attention to one of the following;

*** Character(s), and Themes, and her style, and character development and purpose for writing.**

This should take at least three paragraphs with examples and (short quotations) from the novel .

4. * You will need opinions of expert critics (Three) which should be documented with

Intext references along your own analyses and criticisms. Explain if you feel the book was well written and achieved its purpose, or do you think, it could have been better written and presented.

5. Your paper must have **a conclusion** in which you summarize the primary points of your paper, and you come to some decision about the significance of what you have learned as a result of your analysis. and/or the significance of the author's purpose for writing the novel, short story,

6. All paragraphs and summary information, including dates and biographical

facts should be documented with in text citations in parenthesis and a works cited page. You

need three references along with the book itself. This makes four references. **THE WORKS CITED PAGE AND IN TEXT CITATIONS MUST MATCH**

7 PLAGIARISM WILL CAUSE A FAILING GRADE ON YOUR PAPER. If you see that your paper has more than 30 percent on Turn It In, go back and revise.

8. No paper is complete without notes and a **Works Cited page**. Consult the MLA handbook for the **correct** form.

9. ALL PAPERS MUST BE TYPED. The body of the paper should be approximately three to four typewritten pages at a minimum and no more than four or five at a maximum. Quantity does not denote quality. Proofread your papers for grammatical errors.

10. Do not copy various paragraphs from different sources and turn them in as a term paper. **This is plagiarism** and will result in a paper that is disorganized and illogical. Your paper should reflect your own style of writing, your opinions, and your critical analysis. Your own thoughts are important and valid. Remember there is a lot of material on this novel, and several movies which are not accurate.

Use transition and topic sentences to go from one section to another. Use MLA (MODERN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION HANDBOOK) FOR A GUIDE

12. The notes and works cited must match. You should not have books and articles listed in your works cited that do not match the notes found in the body of your paper. This is very important, and failure to follow this directive could result in failure or a greatly lowered grade.

12. Be sure to use this checklist before turning in your paper to determine whether you have completed your assignment. Ask questions when in doubt. GOOD LUCK! FOLLOW THE DIRECTIONS!!!!