

## Essay 1 Directions

Please read carefully.

### General Explanation:

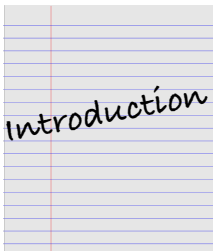
In this class you will be developing *one single research essay* over the course of the 15-week semester. The final product will be a **thesis-driven** essay of 3-4 pages in length. "Thesis-driven" means that the essay is focused on *one clear central idea*. We will be working on this project step by step.



### Directions for Essay 1

#### Step 1:

Choose **one** of the four works we have read in the first four weeks of class ("The Most Handsome Drowned Man in the World" by Gabriel Garcia Marquez; "Salvation" by Langston Hughes; "Araby" by James Joyce, or "A Rose for Emily by William Faulkner). **Choose only one story.**



#### Step 2:

Decide on a **thesis** for your essay. How do you arrive at a **thesis**? Ask yourself the question: What sets this story apart from other stories you have read? The answer to this question is your **thesis**. Elements that might set a story apart from others include: theme, diction, imagery, mood and tone, setting, characterization, or other features. Write a one-sentence thesis statement that conveys this idea. *Do not proceed to Step 3 until you have done this.*

**Step 3:**

Write a 6-10 sentence thesis-driven **introduction** adhering to MLA format and citation guidelines. Your thesis must be analytical in nature and specific to the chosen story. It must present an idea that can be developed in a full-length essay. NOTE: Please write about literature in the present verb tense.

**Step 4:**

Include a Works Cited page with entries for your chosen story (primary source)

**Step 5:**

Sign an Academic Integrity Pledge

Please follow the outline given below:

**Original Title****Introduction**

- Identification of title of story and author
- Very brief (1 or 2 sentences) overview of the story under discussion
- *Thesis Statement* (main idea of your essay)

**Works Cited**

Cite the primary sources for the two works of literature, using correct MLA format.

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Notice that a hanging indent should be used. Indent each line after the first line. Here are the Works Cited entries for the works you may be writing about.

Faulkner, William. "A Rose for Emily." *Commonlit.org*. CommonLit.

<https://www.commonlit.org/en/texts/araby>

Hughes, Langston. "Salvation." *The Center for Fiction.org*. Web.

Joyce, James. "Araby." *Commonlit.org*. CommonLit.

<https://www.commonlit.org/en/texts/araby>

Marquez, Gabriel Garcia. "The Most Handsome Drowned Man in the World." *An Introduction to Fiction*. Eds. X.J. Kennedy and Dana Gioia. New York: Pearson Longman, 2007. 536-540.

### **Academic Integrity Pledge**

In order to be graded, all essays must contain a signed Academic Integrity pledge. On the Work Cited page, please include the following and type your name.

*I hereby pledge that the information in this essay is my own original work and that all phrases or quotes taken from other sources have been correctly identified via quotation marks/in-text citation. YOUR NAME*