

Research Summary Directions

You have now completed the first two steps in our build-an-essay project. You now have a first draft essay.

Step 1:

In the next phase of this project, you will be searching for at least one *secondary source* from the BMCC online library, which you will later incorporate into your in-progress essay.

At this point, however, you will pause in your writing of the essay to write a brief report about your secondary source research.



The secondary source **must** be:

- a literary critique from one of BMCC's literary databases
- **or**
- an article from the BMCC database Biography in Context.

Be sure that the secondary source information is relevant to your thesis; e.g. Do not include biographical information that has nothing to do with the point you are making. For example, biographical information about an author's date and place of birth *may not* be relevant to your thesis. On the other hand, a specific incident from the author's life *might be* relevant to your thesis.

Sources found on Google are not acceptable, nor are Wikipedia or dot.coms such as blogs. **You must use the BMCC online library.** This will actually make your task easier because there will be fewer articles to cull through, and all articles are vetted and considered reliable.

Step 2:

Now you will write a 3-paragraph report (about 250 words) about your secondary source. In order to receive full credit, you must follow the outline provided below.

Outline

Paragraph 1

- Identify the literary work you are discussing in your research essay (primary source)
- Identify the *thesis* of your essay

Paragraph 2

- Identify the title of your secondary source and the author, if one is given.
- State which BMCC database the secondary source comes from
- State the main idea of the secondary source article

Paragraph 3

- In one or two sentences, explain how the secondary source information *helps support your thesis*.
- Provide in-text citation and Works Cited citation for both the primary and the secondary sources.

Works Cited

- Cite the your chosen work of literature (primary source), using correct MLA format. Notice that a hanging indent should be used. Indent each line after the first line.
- Cite your secondary source. Copy and paste citation from the BMCC database.

Works Cited entries for the stories (primary sources) are listed below.

Notice that a hanging indent should be used. Indent each line after the first line.

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.