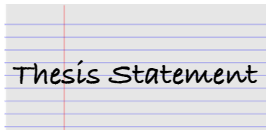


Essay Introduction Directions

Please read carefully.

Step 1:

Choose **one** of the four works we have read in the first five weeks of class (“The Most Handsome Drowned Man in the World” by Gabriel Garcia Marquez; “Salvation” by Langston Hughes; “Araby” by James Joyce, or “The Lesson” by Toni Cade Bambara). **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 point do I want to make about this story? Your point should be an observation you have made on your own about a literary element in the story. Literary elements might include: theme, diction, narrative voice, imagery, mood, setting, characterization, or other features. Do not simply retell the plot of the story. Write a one-sentence thesis statement that conveys this idea. *Do not proceed to Step 3 until you have done this.*

Do not proceed to Step 3 until you have completed this step.

Step 3:

Write a 6-8 sentence thesis-driven introduction, adhering to MLA style. In this introduction, you only have to do three things. Here they are:

- Identify the title and author of the story
- Give a very brief (1 or 2 sentences) overview of the story
- Provide your **Thesis Statement** (*main idea of your essay*)



NOTE: Please write about literature in the *present verb tense*.
Give your essay an interesting and original title.

Step 4:

Works Cited Page

Cite your chosen work of literature, using correct MLA format.

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

Bambara, Toni Cade. "The Lesson." *Gorilla, My Love*. Random House, 1972:

http://www.cengage.com/custom/static_content

OLC/s76656_76218lf/bambara.pdf.

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.

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

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

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

Bambara, Toni Cade. "The Lesson." PDF file.

Step 5

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

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.

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