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Mrs. DiCarlo

English III

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Title should NOT be bold, capital, or underlined

The entire paper should be written in Times New Roman, 12-point font. It should ALL be double spaced. As seen above, the first line of every new paragraph should be indented. Please make sure you do the header correctly because if you do it wrong, the same page number will appear on every page.

The next thing to discuss is parenthetical citation. This is when you use an exact quote from the book or the movie and you must “cite the source”, which basically means to give credit to the original source. A parenthetical citation will look differently; depending on the type of source you use (a book, a magazine, a movie, an interview, etc…). For the purpose of this paper a parenthetical citation will most likely look like this,” (Hawthorne 200). The citation should always include the author’s last name, as well as the page the quote was taken from. There is no comma in between and no abbreviation for the word page. The punctuation comes after the closing parenthesis. A good paper is often filled with parenthetical citations because the writer is using direct quotes from a book in order to support his ideas. However, you do need to explain why the quote you choose is relevant to your argument. This is the most important part of your essay. If you simply throw in random quotes and do not explain how they relate to your theme, they do you no good.

 I expect that all your essays are a minimum of 3 body paragraphs, an intro paragraph (which includes a thesis statement), and a conclusion paragraph. These are the basic elements of any essay and body paragraphs should be a minimum of 8 sentences. The structure of the paragraph is up to you, however, as I said above, the most important part of this essay is that you tell me how your quotes and examples support the theme you are trying to prove. For example, if you tell me that “loneliness is dangerous”, the quotes you choose should show me how you see that idea in the novel AND you should clearly be able to explain the connection between the quote and the theme.

In order to correctly set up the header, go to Insert at the top of the word doc, then click Page Number, and then click Top of Page. It will make the header editable and you should press the tab button until you see the cursor on the right side. Type your last name and make sure to leave a space between the name and page number. Then click outside of the header to continue onto your paper.

Works Cited

Salinger, J. D. The Catcher in the Rye. Little Brown Books, New York: 1945.wreogje[tohjkt.

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The Dead Poets Society. Dir. Steven Spielberg. Universal Studios. 1995.

A works cited page follows the same format at the rest of the paper. The top of the page should be titled “Works Cited”. In this paper, you will have no more than 2 entries because you are not required to use other sources. The two sources used are the novel and the movie; along with your own experience (which you do not need to cite).They will be listed in alphabetical order and look like the sample entry below.

You will need to look up how to properly cite the movie AND don’t forget to put them in alphabetical order- by the first word in the citation.

Here are some page numbers in books that you should have access to in order to check your MLA format of all of these things:

Red Bedford Handbook:

 Parenthetical Citation: pg. 519

 Works Cited: pg. 531

Sample paper: pg. 615

Black DiYanni Lit Book:

 Citation: pg. 2131, Language formality: pg. 2129, Sample paper: pg. 2139

THESIS STATEMENT: The sentence(s) which tell the audience what you are going to “prove” in your essay.

In the intro paragraph

2 parts:

1. The symbol and what it represents -(Pearl rep sin)
2. 3 supporting ideas (brief)- through her actions, character descriptions, and her name

1 BODY paragraph (at LEAST 5 sentences)

* Topic sentence
* Intro to the idea
* A quote with citation
* Explanation/connection to the symbol

Citing your quotes…

Introduce the quote and/or who says it, “insert quote,” (Ch. #, pg. #).

Setting up a Body Paragraph

5 sentences MINIMUM

1. Topic Statement (which should be based on the 1st reason/piece of support from your thesis statement)
2. Introduce the quote (BRIEF, who said it, what is the context, NOT Summary…)
3. QUOTE AND CITATION (ONLY the most essential part of the quote that will apply to your argument, RELEVANT) ex. (OR I.ii.32)
4. Explain how this helps prove your argument (“unpack”, why this quote is important, how it connects to your theme/topic…)
5. Broader significance (“decode”, how does this quote connect to a greater idea/importance? What deeper meaning or understanding can this quote provide to the audience regarding the characters or argument? How does this quote help the audience have a deeper understanding of the theme/story? How does the quote connect or help prove the thesis statement?)