

Essay 1: Close Reading
ENWR 106: College Writing II

Due Dates

XXX: Exploratory Draft Due

XXX: Mid-Process Draft Due (bring 1 hardcopy to class and submit 1 copy to SafeAssign prior to coming to class on 2/1)

XXX: Final Draft Due

Requirements

Length: 800-1200 Words, 3-4 pages (typed, double-spaced, 12 point font).

Documentation: MLA

Sources: There are no outside sources required for this essay. You are encouraged to develop your own analysis of the story or poem without consulting any outside sources. However, if you do consult any outside sources be sure to cite these correctly.

Essay Question

For this essay, you will select one of the texts that we have read in Unit One and write your interpretation of the literary work. Your essay should have a strong central claim that is clearly presented in your introductory paragraph. It should be a debatable point that you can prove in the body of your paper using textual evidence from the poem or short story. Remember that your goal in a literary analysis is not to summarize the text or to explain what is obvious, but rather to provide a new insight or a new perspective on the significance of the literary work. In order to achieve this, you will need to interpret each quotation in your essay thoroughly, dissecting the style and meaning of every word. To develop your analysis work through the strategies of close reading outlined in the Writing About Literature section of *A Writer's Reference*.

The essay will be evaluated using the criteria of the First-Year Writing Program outlined on MSU pg. 8 of *A Writer's Reference*.