

ENGLISH 10 THEME PAPER – 100 pts!

SHORT STORY UNIT: Going Beyond the Plot

Done Individually

A theme is a broad idea, message or moral underlying a literary work. **Themes often explore timeless and universal ideas and are either stated or implied.** Theme differs from the subject or topic of a literary work.

- **Themes are broad and teach us universal truths that anyone can relate to. They address universal truths about human experience.** (i.e. Hard work pays off or we should treat others the way we want to be treated or we can overcome great obstacles.)
- Themes are **NEVER** just one word like love or perseverance. (That is too broad. What exactly is the story teaching us about love or perseverance? One story might teach love is the most important thing while another one might teach us that love can be painful.)
- Themes are **NEVER** too specific. They do NOT mention specific characters or plot events. (i.e. Romeo should have waited to hear from the Friar instead of jumping to conclusions is NOT a theme. Don't act impulsively is a theme)

For your paper you must: Select a story from this unit:

- “Snows of Kilimanjaro” or “The Short Happy Life of...”
- “Visit to Grandmother’s”
- “Everest”
- “Monkey’s Paw”
- “Tell Tale Heart”

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Identify **TWO** themes from that story and provide textual evidence (specifics- **WORD FOR WORD PASSAGES** in **QUOTES WITH CITATIONS**) from the story that is evidence of that theme.

English 10 students who want extra credit can do a **THIRD BODY PARAGRAPH** on a 3rd theme from the story for **EXTRA CREDIT IF DESIRED.**

You will have an:

- INTRODUCTION
- BODY paragraph #1 w/ theme #1 and textual evidence
- BODY paragraph #2 w/ theme #2 and textual evidence
- BODY paragraph #3 w/ theme #3 – **OPTIONAL for EXTRA CREDIT!**
- CONCLUSION

Therefore, students will have 4 paragraphs total **UNLESS** they do an extra body paragraph for extra credit.

Use **TRANSITIONS**: For example, In addition, Furthermore, Finally, In fact, As a result, etc.

PAPERS MUST BE DONE IN GOOGLE DOCS AND PLACED IN YOUR SHARED ENGLISH FOLDER FROM DAY 1!!!!

See the link on the bottom of my short story unit web page **for a link to a great site on theme** that will provide more examples and information if needed

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	Exceeds Standard ☺	Meets Standard	Does Not Meet Standard ☹
<p>Clear Topic Sentences and Organized</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10 pts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Clear, INTERESTING topic sentences that tell what the paragraphs will be about. -Avoids phrases like “I am going to tell you about...” or “this paper is about” -Uses transition PHRASES logically to help move the reader from one paragraph to the next -Each paragraph has a clear, distinct focus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Clear topic sentences tell what the paragraphs will be about. -Avoids phrases like “I am going to tell you about...” -Uses basic transitions to move the reader from idea to idea. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -No clear topic sentence at start of paragraph(s) -Uses phrases such as “I am going to tell you about...” -starts w/ specific examples right away - lacks clear, distinct focus - topic sentences are short and choppy
<p>Content, Examples, and Quotes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">25 pts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Direct quotation (does not have to be dialogue) from the text is used. -Quote (passage) in "" marks -Correctly punctuated -Correctly Cited ex: (Orwell 110). -Passage is appropriate/relevant for the context -good specific, distinct examples - set up and explain examples - have more than one quote per body paragraph and more than 2 paraphrased examples per body paragraph (total of 3 per paragraph) -stay focused on the thesis without re-telling the story 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Direct quotation (does not have to be dialogue) from the text is used. -Quote (passage) in "" marks -Correctly punctuated -Correctly Cited ex (Orwell 110). -Passage is appropriate/relevant for the context -each body paragraph has at least 2 accurate, distinct paraphrased examples and 1 quote (3 examples total) -set up and explain examples and quotes - stay focused on the thesis without retelling the story 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Minimal or No direct quotation (passage) from the text used. -No citation/incorrect citation - body too general, not specific enough - has some specific examples but not enough - addresses thesis but retells too much of the story -quotes not set up or explained enough - examples NOT distinct enough – a bit redundant
<p>Transitions & Sent. Fluency</p> <p style="text-align: center;">10 pts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - has a variety of kinds of complete sentences -UNDERLINE COMPLEX SENT. that start w/ subordinating conj. <li style="text-align: center;">☺ - Uses interesting transitional words and transitional phrases -flows nicely throughout 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Has some variety of complete sentences - Has complex sentences that start w/ subordinating conj but didn't underline them - Overall flows nicely 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - short choppy sentences - could use more transitions - Uses basic transitions like (First, Second, instead of Furthermore, In addition, Finally, As a result, etc.)
<p>Intro and Conclusion</p> <p style="text-align: center;">20 pts</p> <p>HIGH expectations for intros! NO mercy on grading these! We reviewed intros a lot!</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intro has MEMORABLE catch attention (without asking a ?) -provides an overview/brief summary of the story ***HAS A THESIS THAT PREVIEWS THE PAPER that isn't a simple list and w/out saying "This paper is about..."*** - thesis AVOIDS a simple list -saves specific examples for the body Concl – restates main pts in a memorable way w/out getting into new details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intro catches attention can use a ? - Provides brief overview of the story ***HAS A THESIS THAT PREVIEWS THE PAPER that isn't a simple list and w/out saying "This paper is about..."*** -saves specific examples for the body Concl – restates main pts w/out getting into new details 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lacks a catch attention. - Fails to give and overview of the story - Lacks thesis /overview of the paper - Has phrases like “this paper is about” - Uses specific examples that should be in body Concl – fails to restate main points - Provides new details - Is less than three sentences

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<p>Conventions And Mechanics 15 pts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Student has no spelling, punctuation, or capitalization errors - NO awkward wording (reminder short story titles are in quotation marks) -no awkward wording 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Student has complete sentences. -Very few spelling, punctuation, or capitalization errors (reminder short story titles are in quotation marks) -No awkward wording 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -fragments or run ons which are the most serious errors! -Student has misspelled words and mistakes in capitalization -awkward wording, punctuation errors, etc. NEEDS to PROOF MORE!
<p><u>DEVELOPED</u>, Formatting, and sharing 20 pts</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -More than one page / MOST of these pts are based on development -Typed in standard 12 pt font w/ standard margins -No skipping extra lines between paragraphs -SHARED in Google Docs Folder and give me editing ability so I can make comments AND NAMED THEME paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One full page with standard margins and standard font -no skipping lines between paragraphs -SHARED in Google Docs Folder and give me editing ability so I can make comments AND NAMED THEME paper 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Less than one full page -large margins or font -skipping extra lines unnecessarily -Papers will only be graded if they are SHARED in Google Docs folder - Not named THEME paper