

Journal 6 - Short Story Explication - Due Wednesday March 10th, 2017

Choose one of the three short stories from last week: “Sonny’s Blues,” “What You Pawn I Will Redeem,” OR “The Overcoat.” What did you think the overall theme of the story was? Decide what you want to argue the meaning/theme of the story and write it into 1 sentence. This is your thesis. Then, go find a few key pieces of evidence in the short story that proves you are correct. Explicate it; show me how it upholds your argument. Conclude why it is important to you or to everyone.

Points	15-13	12-11	10-9	8-6
Format 15%	2-3 Full pages, double spaced, Times New Roman 12, Title, Name/page #, citation	Missing one of that formatting elements	Missing two of the formatting elements OR > 2 pages	Missing two or more of the formatting elements AND >2 pages
	30-27	26-24	23 -21	20-10
Organization & Textual Material 30%	Introduction with a thoughtful thesis. Paragraphs flow from one idea to the next. Clear conclusion. 1 quote or specific part of a scene placed at the beginning of the paragraph.	Introduction with either too obvious or not clear thesis. Paragraphs mostly flow together. Conclusion somewhat clear. Missing a quote or quote placed incorrectly in paragraph.	Introduction with unclear thesis. Paragraphs do not transition properly. Conclusion should be the thesis. Broad conclusion missing. Missing a quote and placed incorrectly.	Introduction lacks thesis. Paragraphs are random. No Conclusion. Missing several quotes AND/OR placed incorrectly.
	40-36	35-32	31-28	27-16
Argument 40%	Thoughtful analysis and explication of the text. Explores underlying themes, ideas, and implications. The ideas build on one another. Importance is clearly marked.	Thoughtful analysis that covers the surface of the text, exploring some underlying ideas. The ideas build on one another. Importance is covered.	Beginning to analyze the text, but only the surface. Reliance upon more summary than explication. Ideas do not always build. Importance is briefly touched upon.	Mostly/Completely summary of the text. Ideas are scattered. Importance is completely lacking.
	5	4	3	2
Style 5%	Clear sentences that flow from one idea into the next. Wording is specific and well-chosen. A pleasure to read.	Clear sentences, but not perfect cohesion between ideas. Wording is clear, but not well-chosen.	Several sentences are quite confusingly written. The cohesion of the paragraphs is missing.	Sentences are mostly confusing and messy. The paragraphs are rambling.
	10-9	8	7	6-4
Grammar 10%	Little to no grammar or spelling errors	1-2 spelling/grammar errors per page	3-4 spelling/grammar errors	Frequent to overwhelming spelling/grammar errors.