

AP Literature and Composition Summer Assignment

Two (2)-Typed responses Due the Week of August 14, 2017

I. Author's Use of Characterization

Authors use two approaches to deliver information about a character and build an image of them:

1. Direct or explicit characterization

This kind of characterization takes a direct approach towards building the character. The author TELLS you the character's traits:

- "Kat was popular but snobby."
- "Tom is lanky and pale."

2. Indirect or implicit characterization

The audience has to deduce for themselves the characteristics of the character by

- Actions / Behavior / Speech
- Thoughts / Emotions / Effect on Others

Your Task:

Read the short story "Eleven" and identify 2 Narrative Techniques Sandra Ciseros's uses to reveal the eleven year old protagonist. Then, in a well-organized short essay provide evidence of the author's use of the 2 techniques and explain how your examples reveal her protagonist.

Some techniques that you may chose are:

- point of view
- diction
- dialogue
- internal thoughts
- actions and responses

Include in your typed essay:

Introduction

- Title of story, genre, author
- Context (background) – short 2-3 sentence summary (main points of plot)
- Thesis sentence

Example: Through the use of _____ and _____ the author creates a believable eleven year old and reminds the reader of the weighty moments we faced when we were growing up.

1st 2nd Body Paragraph

- Topic sentence (technique / how it functions to reveal Rachel's characteristics as an eleven year old.)
- Textual evidence (quote /examples) of the technique from story)
- Commentary explaining how and what it reveals about Rachel.

Closing Comment

- Connect the stories ideas with the reader. (answer "So What? Why should we care?")

II. Literary Analysis

Literary analysis encourages you to think about **how and why** a poem, short story, novel, or play was written. To successfully analyze literature, you'll need to remember that authors make specific choices for particular reasons. The authors choose specific literary techniques to best convey his ideas. Your essay should point out the author's literary technique choices and attempt to explain their significance.

Writing Prompt:

Read the following poem carefully, then write a well-organized response discussing the "father" and tone (attitude of the poet towards the subject.)

Those Winter Sundays - by Robert Hayden

Sundays too my father got up early
And put his clothes on in the blueblack cold,
Then with cracked hands that ached
From labor in the weekday weather made
Banked fires blaze. No one ever thanked him.

I'd wake and hear the cold splintering, breaking,
When the rooms were warm, he'd call,
And slowly I would rise and dress,
Fearing the chronic angers of that house,

Speaking indifferently to him,
Who had driven out the cold
And polished my good shoes as well.
What did I know, what did I know
Of love's austere and lonely offices?

Response Outline:

Topic Sentence: Include the following:

- Title
- Poet
- Explain (sum up) the situation (Who is the speaker of the poem and what is he/she doing?)

Thesis –

- Author's name
- Literary techniques you will cite and discuss
- The effect of the techniques upon the poet's purpose (meaning) of the poem
- Example: Hayden's use of **word choice and repetition conveys the regret** of past misunderstandings we experience in our lives.
- With 2-3 examples of word choices made by the poet, explain what the audience learns about the father. (How does her words make you feel about the father?)
- Citing the poet's use of repetition to create tone, identify the attitude of the speaker toward the subject of the poem.
- Conclude by relating the speaker's experience to our own. That is all!!!!

