

Literary Analysis Essay (100 points) | Due Oct. 25th

Prompt:

In both the *Epic of Gilgamesh* and the Telemachy (Books 1-4) from the *Odyssey*, the authors present a type of plot called “coming of age.” Coming of age stories relate a young person’s attempted movement toward maturity and the corresponding awakening to a new understanding of himself and the world around him. Write an essay that expounds on the lessons and maturity that both characters gain in their journey toward knowledge, whether social, moral, political, or some other kind of knowledge sought by man.

Plan of attack:

This is not a compare/contrast essay; instead, it is essentially an essay about both plot & character development. Aristotle believed that the plot was much more important than the characters of a story. However, even a thrilling plot that takes the reader on the most mind-bending twists and turns will fall flat when depending on the strength of one-dimensional characters. The same is true of characters: a well-developed character needs an antagonistic environment that chisels and defines that character. In this essay, you will need to consider at least some of the following:

1. To what extent do the stories fit the “coming of age” plot?
2. How are these characters potentially related in kind?
2. How do the circumstances of each change?
3. How does each author use the plot to bring about change?
4. What new understanding does each character gain about himself? The world?

Because we are examining multiple texts and plot devices, you will need a well-organized and developed thesis to get started. Enter the Topic-to-Thesis Worksheet.

Requirements:

Your essay must be a minimum of 1200 words up to a maximum of 1500 words and should follow MLA formatting standards, including citations and a Works Cited page.

Due Dates

Wed, 9/29	Thesis Statement Emailed to tutor by class time Topic to Thesis Assignment , typed in MLA format
Wed, 10/6	Sentence Outline with Rough Draft Works Cited Outlines must be typed and submitted according to sentence outline found on Weebly
Mon, 10/19	Rough Draft with Corrected Works Cited Paper copy brought to class
Mon, 10/26	Final Draft Submitted to Turnitin and a paper copy brought to class. Attached to the back of the paper copy should be all previously graded drafts (topic-to-thesis, outline, rough draft).