

Senior English Writing Assignment



PURPOSE

To demonstrate your understanding of the *Spheres of Cultural Influence* within the stories you have encountered.

ASSIGNMENT

Using the three different writing styles, write an argumentative essay that answers the following prompt:

What is the Wilderness?

To write this, reflect on the stories you have encountered in class:

Into the Wild

Shooting an Elephant (textbook, 114)

Friends With Boys (textbook, 186)

The paper should be written in the following pattern:

Introduction:

Reflection on Wilderness

Is it real or is it metaphorical?

End with Thesis

Body Paragraph (one full paragraph)

Topic Sentence - Paradox (give two possibilities – one concrete, one abstract) of what wilderness could be

Straight - Summary of Insight in to Story 1 (They Say)

Feature - Example/Support - with formal citation

Editorial - What it shows about the Wilderness (I Say)

Straight - Summary of Insight in to Story 2 (They Say)

Feature - Example/Support - with embedded citation

Editorial - What it shows about the Wilderness (I Say)

Straight - Summary of Insight in to Story 3 (They Say)

Feature - Example/Support - summary/paraphrase

Editorial - What it shows about the Wilderness (I Say)

Concluding Sentence - Your conclusion about what the wilderness is.

Conclusion:

What was each person seeking?

What did they discover?

How do those discoveries relate to the world you live within?

Write the paper using Google Docs. When finished, share the document to lcenglishpapers@gmail.com

FOCAL POINTS:**Citations:**

In a formal academic setting, citations are vitally important. You need to show that you can use them and use them well. As a general rule, you should start formal, and you should end more conversational (They Say/I Say). These will absolutely be a determining factor in your final grade!

Formal = attribution, context, quotation (**good**)

Jefferson (attribution), when talking about the king's disregard for the American Colonies (context), says "..." (quotation)

Paraphrase = summarizing large portions, largely description/narration (**easiest, but least effective**)

In Outliers, Joe Flomm, the Jewish lawyer from New York, understood that life was not going to be easy; but he had been born to make his parents proud, and he had a network of support around him (Gladwell, 119).

Embedded = using key text to support your opinion (**best**)