

Honors Literature and Short Stories Week 15

John Steinbeck novels

This week we will be doing the final revisions of the opening and closing paragraphs, as well as any clean-up work on the entire essay. In addition, you will give your essay a creative title.

You may be sending your opening and closing to me several times before the final product is completed. This is a learning experience, and is the best way to devise these paragraphs. Send your paragraphs even if they seem very rough to you or obviously need work. With your start, I can provide input to guide you towards your clean paragraphs.

As you complete your essay with the opening paragraph, three supporting paragraphs, and the closing paragraph, go back through and look once again at:

- Sentence structure
 - Do you use varied sentence structure?
 - Do you combine information rather than having short choppy sentences?
- Word choice
 - Have you checked your thesaurus to use a variety of words?
 - If you see a word repeated more than once in a paragraph, it should be replaced with a different word.
- Quotations
 - Have you made good use of quotes and integrated them smoothly into the body of your work?
 - Do they make sense?
 - Do they support your thesis statement?

Title for your paper:

Devise an interesting title for your paper. Perhaps there is a word or phrase from the book which sums up what you are discussing. Perhaps you have used a word or phrase in your essay that would make a good title. Maybe your vision of your essay creates a word picture that you can use as your title. Do not use the name of the book as your title. Be creative!

Assignments

1. Complete the final draft of your essay. **Final Draft due this week. 150 points**
2. **Weekly Shorts: 5 points**
3. **Journal: 10 points** Read the first half (through the entry for *April 27th*) of “Flowers for Algernon” by Daniel Keyes beginning on page 96 of A Book of Short Stories 1, or check the book out of the library. Do you think that Charlie’s writings as a mentally disabled man at the beginning of the novel accurately represent the way a disabled person genuinely might write? Respond, also, to any similarities or differences between this short story and Of Mice and Men