

From the Desk of Ms. Tria
SOCIAL STUDIES, GRADE 11 US History

ASSIGNMENT: Short Story Analysis, Civil Rights Era
DATE ASSIGNED: Tuesday, April 29, 2014
DATE DUE: Wednesday, May 14, 2014

In this class, you have to write one short story analysis. I will be assigning you the story. The analysis must be based on this fiction or non-fiction short story about the era of the Civil Rights Movement in USA history (roughly the 1950's and 1960's). The story will be about a specific event or individual or a more general survey of the time period. You will discuss your story with the class on Thursday, May 10 as well as hand in the typed analysis that day. Your paper will count as a test grade worth 50 points.

Here is how you write the analysis:

1. The length must be a minimum of one page, maximum of two pages, typed, double spaced.
2. For your paper's title, write the story's title (in quotation marks!) and place the author's name beneath it. Type your name in the upper left corner.
3. Write an introduction paragraph. This can be a brief mention of the author, title, and summary of the story. Be sure to try to connect the summary to the Civil Rights Movement.
4. Answer the following questions. Do not structure each question as a separate paragraph. Instead, link several of the questions/your responses together in a logical manner. Be sure to make direct references to the story and to connect the story to the Civil Rights Movement—tie the story to the historical era.
 - A. How does the main character or author respond to racial inequality and/or race prejudice?
 - B. How would you describe the main character's or author's philosophy of life?
 - C. How does this story expand upon your existing knowledge of the era of the Civil Rights Movement? How does it provide additional information/insight that is new for you?
 - D. How did the main character or author "turn the page of history" by her/his actions?
 - E. In what ways does the main character or author exhibit bravery or courage? Compare this example of bravery or courage to examples studied in class regarding the origins and evolution of the Civil Rights Movement.
5. Explain the author's message. What central idea was the writer attempting to get across? Do this thoughtfully and thoroughly.
6. Write your evaluation of the story as a whole. Would you recommend it to others? You may criticize it. Explain thoroughly.

Good luck and enjoy!