

Name: _____ Per. _____ DUE DATE: _____

Dystopian Worlds Essay

Reading Standard 2: Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.

Reading Standard 1: Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

Writing Standard 1: Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.



Your Writing Task: The short stories, "Harrison Bergeron" by Kurt Vonnegut and "The Ones Who Walk Away from Omelas" by Ursula Le Guin, and "the Lottery" by Shirley Jackson present seemingly perfect worlds that hide injustice under the surface. Societies sacrifice the joy of the individual for the benefit of all. What can we as readers learn from these stories about our own world? In at least a five-paragraph essay, describe a central theme (lesson, moral) in at least one of the stories. Include textual evidence to support your ideas. What lessons can we apply to our world today?

Finished Essays must include the following:

A. Ideas/Content:

- Identify a theme of the text. Possible themes might include:
 1. Individuality versus conformity
 2. Self-determination versus forced equality
 3. Governmental authority versus abuse of power
- Clear ideas with supporting details from the text (cited quotes).
- Include a balance of textual details and student analysis.

B. Organization

- Five-paragraph essay minimum (Intro, Body, Conclusion).
- Thesis (specific, one main idea).
- Specific supporting details from the text.
- Clear and well-supported conclusion.

C. Style/Voice:

- Mixes up sentence starters, not repetitive.
- Variety of sentence lengths and language.

D. Edit for spelling and grammar. Show evidence of revision.

E. Final Drafts must be typed according to MLA Typing Guidelines (Times New Roman, 12 point, Double Spaced). Un-typed essays will lose a letter grade. You can also email or share your essay via Google Docs to Nittle at arnittle@gmail.com.

Writing Process:

1. Prewriting/Outline (40 points) Due: _____
2. First Draft (100 points) Due: _____
3. Typed Final Draft (100 points) Due: _____