

Final Essay Details:

Directions: This essay asks students to analyze one story from an ethical standpoint (using our handout on Five Types of Ethics). Students are also to incorporate at least one idea from our recent lectures on modernism or globalization. Students should consider, especially, what characters decide to do in moments of stress. Therefore, students should select characters and scenes in which important events occur. When character make decisions, that is when we can make a claim that they are acting according to some ethical principle. The following questions might help you to generate a thesis: Does a character (or characters) act to help others or herself or nobody? Does a character follow a strict set of rules or break away from rules? Does a character strive for equality or strive to help those in need or seek a final result independent from the steps taken? What forces lead a character to act/react according to a certain ethics type?

Select One of the Following Texts:

- “The Veldt” Bradbury
- “Sonny’s Blues” Baldwin
- “A Good Fall” Jin
- “Say Hello, Wave Goodbye” Parsons
- “Interpreter of Maladies” Lahiri
- “Assimilation” Doctorow
- “An Arranged Marriage” Freudenberg

Helpful Plan:

- 1) Begin by selecting a story that you like. Then decide which characters make important decisions.
 - 2) Then select two or three important scenes in which key characters make decisions.
 - 3) Next, trace out what type of ethics the characters in each scene seem to follow and what their ethics leads them to do.
 - 4) Finally, be sure to fulfill your thesis’s promise. Use our handout on conclusions to reflect on (for example) what you learned about ethics or how globalization seems to affect character decisions.
- ** Characters may change ethics quickly, and characters might use multiple ethics types, so it is up to the critic (you), to trace changes and/or overlaps.

Your essay will be graded according to these four categories:

1. Title, thesis, method, brief summary (3 sentences max), (25 points)
2. well-structured sentences, clear paragraphs, proper length, and free from typos (25 points)
3. Accurate examination of the story; inclusion of **at least 5 direct quotes**; accurate in-text citations; and a Works Cited page (25 points)
4. Clear understanding and use of ethics handout, concepts (such as Steger’s ideas on globalization), and literary terms (25 points)

Note: Do not use outside sources. Papers that use outside sources will receive a failing grade.

Length: 900 words; please use word count. See Purdue OWL for information on proper in-text citation and Work Cited (MLA style).

Due Date: **Monday, Dec. 13, Midnight:** Post Final draft to **BlackBoard:** NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED. EARLY PAPERS ARE ALWAYS ACCEPTED. POST BY MIDNIGHT.