

Translation Essay Details:

Directions: Using Linda Cahir’s three types of translation, write an essay in which you compare one text and its filmic translation in order to arrive at one of Cahir’s three designations—Radical, Literal, and Traditional (or a hybrid designation). As you compare the text to the film, you should not only describe the type of translation, but also account for the specific categories of narrative that we have discussed so far (the five-part reading tool) and the major concepts that we have discussed such as symbols, foreshadowing, focal target, focalizer, and redemption. Use specific film terms as needed such as diegetic and non-diegetic sound, the various camera angles, camera movement, MacGuffin, transitions, color (there are others). It is very important to select and write about scenes (1-3) as you plan and write this essay. Do not try to compare every single shot and scene. It is also important to avoid writing about every narrative and film concept. Be highly selective, and write about the most important ideas.

Choose from the following:

- Cornell Woolrich, “It Had to Be Murder” (1942) and *Rear Window* directed by Alfred Hitchcock (1954)
- Marjane Satrapi, *The Complete Persepolis* (2004) and *Persepolis*, directed by Satrapi and Vincent Paronnaud (2007)

Points to consider:

1. The introduction should consist of a very brief summary of the text (1-2 sentences)
2. Your comparison should consider differences and similarities.
3. Organize your essay using a clear principle such as narrative/film concepts, character actions, or scenes.
4. The conclusion may focus on these two questions: what have you learned about narrative or translation? And what lessons does the text/film try to teach?

Your essay will be graded according to these four categories:

1. A clear title, introduction, thesis, and method (25 points)
2. Concrete nouns, well-structured sentences, and clear topic sentences and paragraphs (25 points)
3. Accurate examination of scenes and at least four direct (brief) quotations from the text (25 points)
4. Clear use of Cahir’s translation types, film terms, and literary terms (25 points)

Length: At least 900 words (use word count), 12-point font, MLA margins. Please use the Essay and Journal Format that I’ve provided in the “Readings” menu tab of our course website.

Due Dates:

- April 8: First draft due (Posted to OpenLab) at least two pages...emphasize the thesis and method.
- April 15: Final draft due (Submitted through BlackBoard)