

H English IV—Wagner Independent Reading Unit

LANGUAGE ANALYSIS PAPER

In a two or three paged typed, double-spaced paper, analyze an aspect of the author's use of language in your novel. You may look at diction, syntax, imagery (as it applies to the language), narrative structure, etc. **The primary goal of your thesis is to describe how the language impacts the tone, mood, theme, motif(s), or characterization in the novel.**

Steps:

- determine which language or structural element(s) will be your focus
- consider which element(s) of the novel are most impacted by the language
- find specific examples of the author's use of language/structure that support your thesis; a great starting point for examples is the work you've already done (your reading journals)

Requirements:

- essay format; 2-3 pages total
- no first or second person
- well thought out title for your essay, indicating the novel and your approach to analysis
- each body paragraph must contain direct quotes in support of the topic sentence (these do not necessarily have to be dialogue); choose citations from three distinct sections of the novel; use proper internal citation
- properly formatted works cited (your novel is the only work)
- no cover page; use MLA format for heading information

Suggestions:

- Mr. Sprehe and peer tutors are available in the Writing Lab (A104). They can assist you with proofreading and revisions. Please make an appointment ahead of time so they know how many people to expect.
- I am available if you have questions, but you need to make an appointment. I will not proofread your paper; you have other resources for that. I will expect you to have specific questions prepared regarding the content and/or organization of your paper.

Due dates:

- _____: in class reading – reading journal due at end of period
- _____: in class reading – reading journal due at end of period
- _____: in class reading – reading journal due at end of period
- _____: first draft due for peer editing
- _____: second draft due for peer editing
- _____: final draft [*due at the start of your class period regardless of your attendance in school*]

Reminders:

- Failure to bring your novel or use time for journaling on in class reading days will result in a severe loss of participation points.
- No late work will be accepted. If you are absent on a reading day, your journal is due in class the day you return to school. If you are absent when the paper is due, your paper is still due at the start of your class period.