

Second Look at the Literary Report



Big Issues

- Complete all sections. Not doing so can have harmful affects on your grade.
- Review how to compose a summary again by taking a second look at the summary for “Salvation” and “What Is Poverty” as well as reading Chap. 24d, page 269 in our handbook, A Writer’s Resource A Handbook for Writing and Research.
 - Organization
 - Topic sentence identifying the author, title, publication date, and a one-sentence summary of the short story.
 - Who are the major and minor characters?
 - Where is the story set and if that setting is important to the understanding of the short story?
 - What is the short story’s climax (maximum intensity in short story or major turning point in story)?
 - What is the short story’s resolution (how is the problem resolved)?
 - What is the moral (message/lesson) of the story?
- Make sure to choose Key Quotes or Scenes carefully. They should be quotes or scenes worthy of showcasing and discussing in the Thoughts/Analysis of Key Quotes/Scenes section of the Literary Report.
- Analysis means taking a whole and putting it into parts. Therefore, in the Thoughts/Analysis of Key Quotes/Scenes section of the Literary Report, go beyond what the quotes says to what kind of quote is it – dialogue, imagery, character development, etc.; why it works in the scene; what more does the audience learn from its inclusion; and or, why did you choose the quote.
- The Observation section should not be rushed through. Other than the parts of the short story that has already been discussed, what was observed about it? To answer this section, think about class discussion of this short story? Review your class notes and instructor power point slides.
- Look at the Questions’ section as if it is an opportunity to ask the author a question or poise a question that can not be answered through careful reading of the short story.

Small Issues

- Use the template for the Literary Report found on the Learning Web page. Click English 1301/1302. Then, click Literary Report Template.
- Put quotation marks around a title.
- Write the report in third-person point-of-view.
- Refer to the story and author with present tense verbs.
- Document an exact quote with one author “_____” (23).
- Document an exact quote with author and page number when two works are being analyzed in the essay “_____” (Faulkner 8).
- Review grammar, mechanics, word choice, and sentence structure carefully.