Autobiography Literary Review Essay

Length: 500 words (2 pages)
Due: Monday, February 4

Strategies: When writing the essay, remember to organize your essay as we discussed in class. A successful essay includes:

- An introduction with a thesis explaining which autobiography you plan to analyze in your essay.
- The body of your essay will include an in-depth analysis of a chapter from an autobiography or autobiographic short story. You will analyze how the author used the techniques of story and nonfiction (including plot, image, voice, character, and/or setting) to achieve the resulting story.
- Remember to write your essay in a clear, logical, and orderly manner.
- Your essay will also have a conclusion.
- Include in-text citations in the essay in MLA format (8th edition).
- Include a Works Cited page on a separate page in MLA format (8th edition).

Format of Essay:

- Essay will be typed.
- Margins: One inch
- Font: Times New Roman, 12 point
- All pages of the essay should have your last name and the page number in the upper right corner about half an inch from the top of the page.
- Please follow the example on the last page.

Assignment:

Analyze a chapter from an autobiography or autobiographic short story. (You may also select a biography if needed.)

Discuss in detail how the author used techniques of imaginative writing: story and nonfiction (including plot, image, voice, character, and/or setting) to achieve the resulting published chapter or short story. Please quote the lines that you are discussing and use words like “plot,” “scene,” “image,” “voice,” “character,” and/or “setting.” You may need to refer back to the techniques covered in class.

**Remember to analyze the entire chapter or short story. Reading and analyzing only a section of the chapter or short story will not be accepted.
For example:
In “Fourth Grade Ukus” from *Growing Up Local*, Hara’s main character and protagonist is a student who wants to be accepted by other students and teachers at Ka‘ahumanu Elementary School including Mrs. Vincente her future fourth grade teacher and the antagonist of this story. During the story, Lei and Mrs. Vincente encounter complications. When they first meet, Lei mistakes Mrs. Vincente for a fictional character named Mrs. Piggy-Winkle. Mrs. Vincente is insulted and shakes Lei by taking hold of her neck (*Hara* 34). (and the analysis of this short story would continue defining the crisis/climax and resolution…notice the in-text citation in this example that includes the author’s last name and the page number.)

All items listed in Works Cited need to be in alphabetical order.
Essay must be in MLA 8 format. For more information on MLA 8 format, please refer to:

• Research Challenge Help Manual (available in Laulima’s “Weekly Schedule”)

• The Purdue Online Writing Lab has information on MLA 8 format. Go to: https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_and_style_guide.html

• Leeward CC MLA 8 Guide. Go to: http://guides.leeward.hawaii.edu/citingsources/mla8

• Leeward CC MLA 8 in-text citations. Go to: http://guides.leeward.hawaii.edu/citingsources/ml8intext

If you are analyzing a short story from *The Best of Aloha Shorts*, please include a works cited page with this information:


I encourage you to visit the Leeward CC Library and the Hamilton Library (UH Manoa). You have a wide variety of autobiographies to select from. Here are some autobiographies:

*I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou
*Spoken from the Heart* by Laura Bush
*In Pieces* by Sally Field
*Around the Way Girl* by Taraji P. Henson
*Me: Stories of My Life* by Katharine Hepburn
*Long Walk to Freedom* by Nelson Mandela
*Inventing Joy* by Joy Mangano
*Faith of My Fathers: A Family Memoir* by John McCain
*Becoming* by Michelle Obama

Here are some biographies:
*Einstein: His Life and Universe* by Walter Isaacson
*Steve Jobs* by Walter Isaacson
Title of Essay

Tab all paragraphs. Also ensure that the essay is double spaced so that the essay is easier to read.

Works Cited