

## Romanticism Essay Replacement Grade

(Earn up to 50 if you didn't turn in an essay; earn up to 70 if you turned in an essay but made below a 70)

Choose 1 and write a 4-paragraph essay. Follow the outline below.

- A) Write a character analysis essay in which you analyze Richard Wright, the author and narrator of the autobiographical account "The Library Card."
- B) Write an essay in which you tell how books affected Richard Wright, the author and narrator of the autobiographical account "The Library Card."

### I. INTRODUCTION (4 sentence minimum)

- a. **Hook – sentence #1.** A general statement about life that one can learn from reading "The Library Card." Do NOT refer to the author or title of the story in the hook.
- b. **Summary – 2-3 sentences.** Write a summary of the story in which you include the author's name and "title of the story capitalized and in quotation marks" ("The Library Card")
- c. **Thesis statement (LAST sentence in the introduction) – this thesis will have 2 points.** If you are writing about topic A, it will include the 2 character traits you will analyze. If you are writing about topic B, it will include the 2 ways books affected Wright.

### II. Body Paragraph 1. (4 sentence minimum)

- a. **Topic sentence = first sentence.** Essay topic A – this sentence will state the first character trait. Essay topic B – this sentence will state the first way Wright was affected by books.
- b. **Supporting Detail #1** – support the topic sentence with an embedded "direct quote" and your analysis of (or comment about) the direct quote.
- c. **Supporting Detail #2** – support the topic with another embedded "direct quote" and your analysis/comment
- d. **Transition to Body Paragraph 2**

### III. Body Paragraph 2. (4 sentence minimum)

- a. **Topic sentence = first sentence.** Essay topic A – this sentence will state the second character trait. Essay topic B – this sentence will state the second way Wright was affected by books.
- b. **Sentence 2** – support the topic sentence with an embedded "direct quote" and your analysis of (or comment about) the direct quote.
- c. **Sentence 3** – support the topic with another embedded "direct quote" and your analysis/comment
- d. **Transition to conclusion**

### IV. Conclusion (3 sentence minimum)

- a. **Restated thesis** – do NOT copy it word-for-word from the introduction. Rephrase it. You may want to use synonyms for the character traits or reword the effects.
- b. **Summary of main points.** In 1-2 sentences summarize the main points of the essay.
- c. **Concluding statement** – end with a final, thoughtful statement about (Essay Topic A) Richard Wright as a person or (Topic B) how people can be affected by reading books (keep it a positive; you don't want to end on a negative note!)

Do NOT write in 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> point of view. No "I think" "you should." It is poor academic analysis writing.

Also avoid using a question as a hook. Often times you will end up using 2<sup>nd</sup> person point of view in the question and insult or bore the reader. Write a declarative statement, not a question.

**NOW DO ALL OF THIS:** Write your rough draft on a sheet of paper. Then use the instructions to format your paper into proper MLA Format. Type the rough draft. Print it. Revise (make sure body paragraphs line up with thesis; make sure supporting details are strong and support topics of body paragraphs). Fix this in your rough draft. Spell check. Print. Edit again to catch what spell check didn't. Fix grammatical errors. Read it out loud to catch awkward sentences, fragments, and run-ons.

Turn in when finished. If you don't finish by the end of class on Thursday, it's due at the beginning of class on Friday, so make sure you go to the library during lunch or before school to finish. We are back in the classroom Friday, and I won't let you leave to print!

## Sample introduction for “Dr. Heidegger’s Experiment” character analysis essay.

<sup>1</sup>Sadly, humans often have a hard time learning from their mistakes. <sup>2</sup>In Nathaniel Hawthorne’s tale “Dr. Heidegger’s Experiment,” the old doctor learns this lesson when he serves his friends water from the Fountain of Youth. He advises them to draw up rules so they do not repeat their dreadful pasts. <sup>3</sup>Fortunate for Dr. Heidegger, he is wiser and more observant than his friends.

## Sample conclusion for “Dr. Heidegger’s Experiment” character analysis essay.

<sup>4</sup>Dr. Heidegger’s friends would have fared better had they listened to their astute and watchful friend. <sup>5</sup>He predicted that they would repeat their mistakes, warned them about it, then carefully watched as they grew into miserable old creatures again. <sup>6</sup>People claim they would fix their mistakes if given the chance to go back in time; however, it is more likely they would continue to err.

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### INTRODUCTION

<sup>1</sup> **Intro sentence #1 – the “hook.”** This is a general statement about life that people will understand whether or not they have read the story. This is often something that can be learned about life after reading the story.

<sup>2</sup> **Intro sentences #2 & #3** – a brief summary of the story that includes the author’s name and the “title of the story in quotation marks.”

<sup>3</sup> **Thesis Statement:** Last sentences of the introduction. This sentence states what the essay will be about and sets up the order of the body paragraphs. The first body paragraph will analyze how Dr. H is wise; the second will analyze how he is observant.

### CONCLUSION

<sup>4</sup> **Conclusion sentence #1 – restated thesis.** “astute” is a synonym for “wise.” “watchful” is a synonym for “observant”

<sup>5</sup> **Conclusion sentence #2** – summary of some main points

<sup>6</sup> **Conclusion final statement** – refers back to the hook and human behavior.