

Things Fall Apart – Midterm Paper

It's the middle of the term, time to shine. Your paper should be an original work that takes an in-depth look at Achebe's novel. It should not be a book report or a plot summary.

Things We've Covered that Your Paper Should Demonstrate

Grammar/Usage

- Effective manipulation of clauses and phrases in a variety of sentence structures
- Strong, clear sentences that highlight (rather than bury) your point
- Sentences that have a point, rather than just say words
- Paper reflects a thorough editing – words are used correctly, spelled correctly, and punctuation is accurate.

Analysis

- Paper finds an original, thoughtful angle from which you discuss the book
- Thesis is arguable and substantial; requires significant proof
- Thesis is provable by the text
- AT LEAST two direct quotes from the text support your thesis
- Each point contains a balance of context/background, evidence and analysis
- The conclusion arrives somewhere new (“so what”)

Writing Strategies

- First paragraph will employ AT LEAST two strategies we discussed as a class
- Individual goals are listed at the top of paper and are addressed with intention and effort
- The paper makes its claim without using “I” or “You”
- Sentences and paragraphs have logical links between them to help your paper “flow” and prove its points gracefully
- If your goal sheet says try a template USE ONE
- The “quote sandwich” method integrates quotes smoothly into the text

Citations

- Use in-text citation in MLA format whenever you quote directly or indirectly from another source (including TFA)
- Attach a works cited for any sources you use
- Note: external sources are not required for this paper, only the text

Parameters

- Times New Roman 12 point font
- Double spaced
- 3-5* pages ...NO MORE THAN 5
- Submit via Turnitin no later than **4 PM FRIDAY OCTOBER 10**

Rewrite opportunity

- If you feel that you would like to represent yourself better in your writing folder at the end of the term, you can opt to rewrite this paper
- You will need to meet with me during J block to discuss revisions if you'd like to use this opportunity
- Using this opportunity is **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED**

If You are FREAKING OUT

- Stop.
- Come to J block
- Send me an email
- Go get yourself a hot chocolate
- All of the above?

* If you are having difficulty getting to 3 pages, see me