Writing Task:

Write an analytical essay of 4 (FULL) -5 pages (excluding WC page but do add one) in which you explain your interpretation of the Joyce Carol Oates's short story “Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?” to readers and persuade them that your interpretation is worthy of serious consideration.

Your essay must incorporate a secondary source from the list of provided materials. The provided sources are intended to give you a starting point (an idea to argue with) or to provide support and/or illustration of the points of your argument. In either case, your thesis is driving the essay, not the combined contentions of other writers. In addition to citing the story, you are required to incorporate a minimum of ONE secondary critical source in the text of your essay.

NOTE: This is still not a research paper. You are NOT to include any sources other than the short story and the one critical essay you choose. Your choices of essays to grapple with are:

1. Downloaded from CANVAS on our syllabus:
   1. “Connie’s Tambourine Man: A New Reading of Arnold Friend?” by Tierce & Crafton
   4. “O’Connor’s Mrs. May and Oates’s Connie: An Unlikely pair of religious initiates” by Dessommes & Bishop
   5. "Existential Allegory: Joyce Carol Oates's 'Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?'" by Urbanski

2. The Casebook in our text:
   1) “Joyce Carol Oates’s ‘Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?’ as Pure Realism” by Coulthard
   2) “from a review of Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?: Selected Early Stories” by Kalpakian
   3) “Oates’s ‘Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?’” by Rubin
   4) “Little Red Riding Hood” by Charles Perrault
   5) “The Pied Piper of Hamelin” by Anonymous
   6) “from Riding in Cars with Boys: Reconsidering Smooth Talk” by Dickinson

YOUR PURPOSE IN WRITING THIS ESSAY:

• Develop a valid, interesting, and arguable thesis
• Organize your essay in such a way that the reader can see a clear progression of ideas
• Support your argument with sufficient evidence and well-chosen quotes from the texts.
• Use appropriate literary terms where applicable.
• Cite references from both texts by using the correct format as explained and illustrated in The MLA Handbook section of your reader. Attach a Works Cited page.
• Demonstrate your skills of persuasive writing, organizing your argument and using language in a way that will lead the reader to adopt your viewpoint.
• Exercise the skill of writing well-crafted sentences, utilizing standard edited American English.