Major Essay #2- Text Based Analysis
*Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption*

**PURPOSE:**

- Trace a major theme in *Rita Hayworth and the Shawshank Redemption.*
- Explain how King uses symbolism, e.g. objects, images, events, language, visuals etc, to develop this theme.
- Select vivid examples from the text to document and support your claims.
- Establish a clear context for the reader, imagining that your audience has not read nor viewed the same material you have.
- Base you analysis on principles from the Guidepost Theory of Literary Analysis (see handout, 9/19, adapted from Foster)
- Craft a thesis narrow enough to support a four page paper
- Showcase your skill in revising for unity, clarity, and tone.
- Clarify, develop and organize your ideas logically through exploration and revision.

**TEXTS AND OTHER MEDIA RESOURCES:**

1. *Apt Pupil*, pp. 15-107
2. *Course Reader* pp. 32-69; 81-88
3. Video screenings: 2/17; 2/24; 3/3
4. Reading Logs, class discussions

**YOUR MISSION:**

Trace a major theme in *Rita Hayworth and Shawshank Redemption* and in your analysis follow an element throughout the novella and explain its significance, documenting your claim with clear examples cited and documented from the text.

Some topics you may wish to consider are, an analysis of:

1. Andy Dufresne, e.g. what “makes him tick.”
2. Red’s character, including how his role affects our view of the novella’s events.
3. the significance of hope, i.e. the expectancy of good vs. the expectancy of evil.
4. “Andy the man” compared to “Andy the legend” and the role each image plays.
5. the meaning of freedom
6. the passing of time
7. the perception of good vs. evil
Essentially, you will be identifying and tracing a pattern, which means that you’ll be collecting evidence from the text, examples you can use to build your case. So, you’ll have to be very careful as you “mine” the text for examples, confident that you can frame them convincingly enough so an audience who may not be familiar with the work will accept them. This means that you’ll need to showcase your ability to select and use convincing textual evidence appropriately.

Whichever issue you choose to write about, your essay will most likely need to begin with some introductory material that will set the stage for an uniformed reader. You will probably want to:

- very briefly summarize the novella and establish a context for your discussion.
- although not set in stone, your thesis should appear by the end of the second or even third paragraph. You neither want it to be too soon for the reader to accept your claim, i.e. you’ll need to prepare the way, nor so late that the reader is struggling to figure out where you are going. After all, they may get frustrated and stop even trying to follow you. So like Goldilocks, you thesis placement will have to be “just right”.
- the balance of the essay should provide well-chosen and adequately framed textual evidence, i.e., with clear explanations that show how support your thesis position.
- While there will be no “in conclusion” or lastly,” no artificial “wrap up” statement as you near the end of this piece. If well-thought out, well-organized, and thoroughly supported with material from the text itself, the essay will evolve in a way that the concluding material flows naturally from the body of evidence you’ve presented.

**Formatting information and important dates:**

Your essay should be 3-4 pages, typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 pt. font. MLA format with appropriate an appropriate header on all pages and your expanded information on page one (See CR: 457).

Your **thesis** should be bolded and italicized. Additionally, italicize what you think is the topic sentence of each paragraph. (Essays not formatted in this way will be considered late and subject to the conditions of the class late policy.)

**Call LRC: (677-2033) for Peer Review Appointment: MUST BE COMPLETED**

No later than Fri. 2/27 – not having your essay peer-reviewed on time means you are ineligible to submit it

**First draft:** Due at LRC by close of business Fri. Mar. 6th

**Second draft:** Due Friday, Mar. 13th via email by noon along with your D1 (CW: Assignments Page: How to Turn in Second Draft)

**Third draft:** Due Mon, Mar. 30th via email by noon (CW: Assignments Page: How to Turn in Third Draft)