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English II PreIB
20 Sep 2015

Proper heading

Essay Due Date

Proper page number using
"insert page number"

Title centered; not bolded; only one
double space between heading and
title and title and body of paper

Title of My Essay

In this passage from the memoir *The Woman Warrior*, Maxine Hong Kingston imagines what old world China was like, and paints a picture of a repressive, strictly ordered society in which people were essentially unable to have private lives. Everything had to be done for the sake of the family's or village's well-being. In such a world, Kingston's aunt represents the worst kind of transgressor, one whose private lusts disrupted the social order and threatened the very existence of the village. Kingston uses interesting and imaginative stylistic techniques to represent the "circle" or "roundness" (32) of Chinese life and the struggle this creates for both the village and No Name Woman. Kingston illustrates how this story has shaped her life when she writes, "My aunt haunts me – her ghost drawn to me because now, after fifty years of neglect, I alone devote pages of paper to her, though not origamied into houses and clothes" (49).

TAG:
title,
author,
genre

More formatting rules:

Times New Roman; 12 pt; double-spaced; left justified; 1" margins all around

Capitalizing Titles:

1. Capitalize the first and last word in a title, regardless of part of speech
2. Capitalize all nouns (baby, country, picture, etc.), pronouns (you, she, it, etc.), verbs (walk, think, dream, etc.), adjectives (sweet, large, perfect, etc.), adverbs (immediately, quietly, etc.), and subordinating conjunctions (as, because, although, etc.)
3. Lowercase "to" as part of an infinitive
4. Lowercase all articles (a, the, etc.), prepositions (to, at, in, with, etc.), and coordinating conjunctions (and, but, or, etc.)

Word Count: 298

Word count at the very end of paper; left justified

General Structural Guidelines for Essays over a Single Work

NOTE: These guidelines are only for analysis/commentary essays that do not include any other references than the text of the work being analyzed. Once you start including other sources, it becomes a literary analysis research paper and additional MLA rules will apply.

General

1. Include the author’s name, title of work, and genre in the introductory paragraph.
2. Titles of long works (books, plays, movies, etc) should be italicized or underlined. Short works (poems, journal articles, newspaper stories, etc.) should have quotation marks placed around the title.
3. When using only one work in your writing, place only page numbers or line numbers within parentheses at the end of quotation [e.g. (86) or (6-10)]. *** Notice that “pg” or “pp” or the author's name are NOT included within parentheses!***
4. DO NOT define literary terms/poetic devices. Assume the reader knows the definition of such terms.

Quoting Prose

5. Always embed/introduce quotes. Ensure that the identity of the character speaking or performing an action is clear. State the name of the character(s) and/or the author’s when necessary.
6. Quotations of prose that are more than four lines (when run into the text of the essay) should be set off from the text by beginning a new line and indenting one inch. The quote should still be double-spaced but one should NOT include quotation marks. Parenthetical documentation should come immediately after the last word in the quote. See example below:

Begin quotation of whatever, blah, blah, blah.....

.....

.....

.....

.....yadda, yadda, yadda. (72)

Quoting Poetry

7. Separate lines of poetry that are used within the text of the essay with a forward slash (/) and a space before and after the slash. Include all punctuation that appears in the lines. Example:

“First line quoted, / Next line quoted. / Last line quoted!” (6-8).

8. Poetry quotations of more than three lines should follow same basic formatting rules for long prose quotes above; however write the poetry lines *exactly* as they appear in the poem.

Integrating Quotations into Sentences

You should never have a quotation standing alone as a complete sentence, or, worse yet, as an incomplete sentence, in your writing. Ways to integrate quotations properly into your own sentences are explained below.

A. Introduce the quotation with a complete sentence and a colon.

This is an easy rule to remember: if you use a complete sentence to introduce a quotation, you need a colon after the sentence.

Example: In *Of Mice and Men*, Steinbeck characterizes Lennie using animal imagery almost immediately: “He walked heavily, dragging his feet a little, the way a bear drags its paws” (2).

Example: Armstrong ends her essay with a new insight: "You're in it alone. Except when you're not."

B. Use an introductory or explanatory phrase, but not a complete sentence, separated from the quotation with a comma.

You should use a comma to separate your own words from the quotation when the introductory or explanatory phrase ends with a verb such as "says," "said," "thinks," "believes," "pondered," "recalls," "questions," and "asks" (and many more). You should also use a comma when you introduce a quotation with a phrase such as "According to Thoreau."

Example: Curley's wife started screaming, “don't muss it up” (56) when Lennie refused to let go of her hair.

Example: Steinbeck captures the immense strength of Lennie when he writes, “his hand closed over Curley's fist and crushed...” (78).

Example: According to Emerson, "Unless you try to do something beyond what you have already mastered, you will never grow."

C. Make the quotation a part of your own sentence without any punctuation between your own words and the words you are quoting.

Example: Dr. Wayne Dyer suggests that "our intention creates our reality" (9).

Example: Thoreau argues that "shams and delusions are esteemed for soundest truths, while reality is fabulous" (21).

Example: According to Thoreau, people are too often "thrown off the track by every nutshell and mosquito's wing that falls on the rails" (19).

D. Use short quotations--only a few words--as part of your own sentence.

When you integrate quotations in this way, you do not use any special punctuation. Instead, you should punctuate the sentence just as you would if all of the words were your own.

Example: In "Injection," Armstrong describes her the symptoms of her debilitating disease as “an electrical parade” and “flashing lights” (1-2).

Example: Thoreau argues that people blindly accept "shams and delusions" as the "soundest truths," while regarding reality as "fabulous" (14-15).

Example: Although Thoreau "drink[s] at" (23) the stream of Time, he can "detect how shallow it is" (25).

All of the methods above for integrating quotations are correct, but you should avoid relying too much on just one method. You should instead use a variety of methods.