Poetry Essay

**Prompt:** Over the past few weeks, we have read many poems and discussed the rhetorical devices poets use to create meaning in their poems. Choose a poem that we haven’t discussed in class - this can be your POL poem or a new one – that has at least two rhetorical devices. **In a four-paragraph essay, discuss how your poet uses two rhetorical devices to develop a theme.**

**Requirements:** Your paper must follow all MLA guidelines (heading, **citations, works cited**, etc.). Your paper should include an introductory paragraph, a conclusion, and two body paragraphs. Your body paragraphs should **provide textual evidence** from the poem as an example of your rhetorical devices and your **analysis should make it clear how that device exemplifies your theme**. Also, **do not use any first or second person pronouns**.

**Due Dates and Points:** This essay is worth **100** points (15/15/70). You will have a few days in class in which to draft and outline. The rough draft will be due**­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. You will **turn this in via Classroom in Office 365**. Please **do not share** it with me. This needs to be uploaded on Classroom. The final draft will most likely be due one week after I return rough drafts.

**For your final draft**- Your final draft will be a little different this time. You don’t need to turn in the two other pieces of writing (outline and rough draft), but you will need to **bold all of your changes** in the final draft. That means any commas, periods, capital letters, sentences, quotes, paragraphs, etc. that you change need to be **BOLD**. This is to help you realize how much (or how little) you have revised your paper**. Make sure you are reading my comments and not just fixing the grammatical errors**. My comments are worth much more than the grammar.

WRITING

Structuring Your Essay

# Introduction

* This essay is a little different. You should start with something along the lines of “[Title of your Poem] by [author] was published in…”
* Then move on to a **brief** summary of your poem. What is it about?
  + Ex. Provided by Miss Melcher
    - “The Turtle” is about a young woman who finds a turtle.
* Your summary should lead you to your theme.
  + Ex. Provided by Miss Melcher
    - “Ultimately, the relationship between the woman and the turtle is a metaphor for the relationship between human beings and nature: even though humans love and want to protect the natural world, their interference generally does more harm than good.”
* This should lead you to your thesis. Your thesis needs to not only identity the theme of the poem, but also how your author uses rhetorical devices to set up the theme.
  + Ex. Provided by Miss Melcher
    - “Smith uses personification and simile to establish and develop this idea that nature is best left alone.”

# Body Paragraphs

* Body paragraph 1 – first rhetorical devices and how it connects to theme
  + Clear Topic sentence
  + MEAL Plan
    - Make sure you use text evidence to show how your author uses this rhetorical device
    - Analysis should explain how that device connects to your theme
* Body Paragraph 2 – second rhetorical devices and how it connects to theme
  + Clear topic sentence
  + MEAL Plan
    - Make sure you use text evidence to show how your author uses this rhetorical devices
    - Analysis should explain how that device connects to your theme

# Conclusion

* Bookend with intro
* Consider an “uber” summary
* Explain why the theme is significant to the world at large