

Their Eyes Were Watching God ~ Zora Neale Hurston

Argument Writing

STEP ONE – 11/8-9, due 11/13

Prompt: Which of Janie’s husbands fosters her growth the most?

Writing Assignment: Select one of the following statements to argue in favor of. Write a full argument, including an introductory statement, a claim, two pieces of contextual evidence, and a conclusive sentence.

- Janie’s most significant growth happens when she leaves Logan Killicks. Support your stance with information from the text as well as from class discussions.
- Without Joe Starks, Janie would have never found her voice. Support your stance with information from the text as well as from class discussions.
- Tea Cake is an ideal mate for Janie because he helps her achieve freedom. Support your stance with information from the text as well as from class discussions.
- Janie does not truly find her voice and independence until she is alone. Support your stance with information from the text as well as from class discussions.

STEP TWO – 11/13 in class

Silent Discussion Assignment: Each of the claims regarding Janie’s most significant growth are hung up in the room. Consider these other arguments and offer one rebuttal for each.

- Write your rebuttal on the butcher paper (do not talk). You will do this on three of the claims.
 - Your rebuttal can be a quote or a scene from the text that supports your argument.
 - Once everyone is finished, go to the claim that represents your argument. Write down the rebuttal that best challenges your argument.

STEP THREE – 11/13 homework

Writing Assignment: Using the quote or scene you discovered in class today, write a paragraph that addresses the counter to your argument, including an introductory statement, a counter claim, one piece of contextual evidence, and a conclusive sentence.

- A counter claim may look like this:
 - The example is true, but...
 - State the example and then provide reason(s) it is not relevant to your argument.
 - The example is true but not as significant as...
 - Acknowledge that the example is true but not as important as your argument.
 - The example is flawed because...
 - Point out the invalidity of the opposing argument.

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Argument Writing Rubric

Name _____

Argument contains introductory/conclusive statements /5

Claim is clear and arguable /5

Two pieces of evidence (quotes) /40

Evidence is directly relevant to the argument (must show her growth)

Evidence is fully and accurately explained

Quote incorporation follows the XYZ

Counter Argument contains introductory/conclusive statements /5

Counter claim is clear and supports argument /5

One piece of evidence (quote or scene) /20

Evidence is directly relevant to the argument (address the rebuttal and disprove)

Evidence is fully and accurately explained

Follows MLA formatting (TNR, 1" margins, double space, proper heading) /5

Free of grammar/spelling errors /15

Use of Vocabulary +

of days late _____ - _____% -

Total _____ **/100**