Method 1: Comment on <u>one or two themes</u> related to these short stories, "The Cask of Amontillado," "Dead Men's Path," "The Passing of Grandison," "In Another Country," or "For Esme - With Love and Squalor."

"The Cask of Amontillado" by Edgar Allan Poe - Romanticism/Gothic fiction

Revenge: "I must not only punish but punish with impunity" - Is impossible?

How far does one go to get revenge

How Poe's character development

How Poe's use of death, corpses, and

"Dead Men's Path" by Chinua Achebe

and/or other cultures

ation

can breed the worst results

"[E]ternal vigilance is the price of liberty"

gap between two cultures

"The Passing of Grandison" by Charles Chesnutt- regionalism

What a man will do for a woman or for love

What a man will do for freedom

The relationship – real or imagined – between master and slave in the pre-Civil War American South

The injustices of slavery in the pre-Civil War American South

The differences between a "good" and a "bad" slave

How one behaves vs. how one really feels

"In Another Country" by Ernest Hemingway/The Lost Generation

consciousness of the men wounded in the war, which represents both a challenge and a threat

soldiers'/young men's heightened awareness of death

the nature and meaning of courage

those who do battle are not the only ones vulnerable to the effects of it.

The difficulty of living with courage

The difficulty of living/coping after experiencing death

Is there ever healing after war? If so, at what cost? How does it come about?

How can a work of fiction effectively depict the results of war?

Americans soldiers fighting in and defending other countries - reactions from the soldiers and/or from the people in other countries

"For Esme, With Love and Squalor" by J.D. Salinger - Realism

the effect war - both for those who fight and their families

How can a work of fiction effectively depict the results of war?

the importance of showing both sides of war - soldiers and civilians

choose the word "squalor"?

[redacted]

You may choose your own theme related to these stories as long as you support it with quotes, examples, and analysis from the stories.

Method 2: Compare and contrast similar themes in these two stories:

- "The Passing of Grandison" and "Dead Men's Path":
  1. Respect for race and belief
  2. What people will or will not do for acceptance
  3. What people will or will not do for love
- "In Another Country" and "For Esme - with Love and Squalor"
  1. PTSD before it was given a name: how did soldiers deal with the aftermath of war?
  2. How do characters in both stories deal with war?
  3. What are different approaches to life after war: hope, love, acceptance?
  4. Americans soldiers fighting in and defending other countries

Method 3: Relate one or two of the stories to the American Literary Movement that they were a part of.

- Refer to the last two sources in the Study Guides Module and other outside sources
- What is the particular literary movement of the stories you chose?
- How do these stories prove to be good examples of these movements?

As always, remember to include in your paper:

1. Thesis statement in the introduction
2. References to the stories, including direct quotations, summaries, or paraphrases.
3. References to the authors' style and background
4. Historical, religious, or geographical references if fitting or necessary
5. Use of any of the literary terms (for instance: symbolism, allusion, metaphor) or other short story elements that may help to develop the themes
6. Include in-depth, complete examples from whichever stories you choose.
7. Critical comments from outside literary sources (some are listed on the syllabus)
8. Refer to literary criticism, any class discussion, and your own thoughts. DO NOT quote other students' essays.
9. Make sure you include a SUITABLE TITLE that pertains specifically to your subject.
10. Conclusion in the last paragraph that wraps up all of the points you presented
11. Proper MLA format as shown on the first page handout
12. Proper MLA in-text citations and MLA Works cited page

This response paper should be at least 2 - 3 pages in length.

To do research: Go to Mount Ida Website, click on Library, then click on Finding Research Materials, then Electronic Databases, On-Line Catalogue, or ask a librarian. Remember, this essay is not a "book report". This is a critical, theme-based analysis. As such, you must include your own ideas along with outside sources, not just quotations from the text. For assistance with ANY PART of the writing process, consult a writing tutor. The schedule is listed on the last page of the syllabus. Or contact me by email at any time with any questions about this assignment.