

English 102 - Possible Topics for the 1000 word essay due March 14

In Elizabeth Bishop's "The Fish," what leads the narrator to her moment of revelation? What is her revelation and why does she let the fish go?

What is the state of mind of the narrator in "Skunk Hour" and does this state of mind change by the poem's end?

What statement is being made about love in W.H. Auden's "As I Walked Out One Evening"? Is it a negative or positive statement?

How does Bishop function as a catalyst for the actions of the old man, Tarwater, and Rayber in *The Violent Bear it Away*?

What is the importance of passion in *The Violent Bear it Away*? How do Tarwater and Rayber deal with their passion? What is the moment of revelation in each of their lives?

There is a lot of symbolism throughout the *The Violent Bear it Away* - most notably, water and fire. What role do these play in the narrative?