Composition Grade

1-2-3-1 Paragraph Prompt: Identify a theme in the short story “Reunion” and provide evidence from the story to prove your claim.

Rules for Literary Criticism (it’s what we do at this level, no more summaries)

-MLA formatting of all quotes, both incorporated and block formats

-Double space your papers, whether or not they are typed

-Proofread your Rough Drafts for any grammatical errors (-1 for each error)

-Do not use “I” “you” “we” “us” etc. in Formal or Academic Tone papers. Even though you are stating your opinions and ideas, you want it to sound stronger than an opinion.

-No contractions in Formal/Academic Tone

-Always write in the present tense when referring to the action in a text.

-No hedge words “probably” “maybe” “perhaps” etc. These weaken your tone and does not help you convince a reader that your opinion is a strong one.

-Make sure you have the title of the story in quotation marks (books get underlined/italics)

-**You will be passing in both your Rough Drafts and Final Drafts. -10 points if no Rough Draft or if the Rough Draft has not been edited.**

Rubric for 1-2-3-1

Paragraph will be graded accordingly:

--100: The question is answered completely and correctly, and all parts of the paragraph are well-written:

-Opening Claim: statement of opinion is intriguing and pertinent to subject matter

-Spec: description is extensive enough that the reader will fully understand the quote, but does not contain any extraneous details. Stick to the scene you’re summarizing, and don’t summarize the whole story.

-Quote: the quote provides strong evidence to back up the Opening Claim and is not longer than necessary; however, avoid adding ellipses whenever possible.

-End Claim: Quote’s importance is fully explained and how it connects to the Opening Claim.

--5 points will be deducted for each part of the paragraph (claim, spec, quote, claim) that is not well-written.

--10 points will be deducted for each part of the paragraph (claim spec, quote, claim) that is inadequate.

--15 points will be deducted for each part of the paragraph (claim spec, quote, claim) that is missing.

--1 point will be deducted for each grammatical error—including incorrect formatting of quote, use of contractions, use of “I” etc., slips out of present tense when discussing scenes and characters from the text, and avoidable usage of hedge words.