2017

Presentation and Final Research Paper for ENG 102 [English]

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Anita Baksh
ENG 102   Inquiry and Problem Solving Competency Written Ability
Student Presentation and Paper 3 Assignments

Presentation- Worth 10% of your overall grade for the course

The group is required to lead class discussion on an assigned Sherman Alexie short story for about 10 minutes.

- Choose a passage (a paragraph or a few sentences) that you feel reflects a major theme or concern of the story. You will present the passage to the class and lead a discussion on it. You should prepare at least two thought-provoking, open-ended questions for class discussion.

- You are required to draw on at least **ONE** of the secondary sources provided (Alexie's "Introduction" or one of the scholarly articles).

- Presentations will be graded based on 1) the quality of the discussion questions, 2) the actual class discussion and 3) the presenters' own analysis of the topics being addressed.

Things to Consider

Look up historical and cultural references that are important to your story (i.e. HUD Houses). Here are some of the elements that you **may** consider as you develop your close reading of your chosen passage:

❖   Style: what do you notice about voice, narrator, vocabulary, length and complexity of sentences, figurative language, and other literary devices?

❖   Content: does the passage set a scene, define a character, provide a turning point in the plot, establish or develop a theme? What does the text say about gender, race, ethnicity, class, nation, and/or power and what are your views about it? What is the text critiquing?

❖   Relationship of part to whole: what does this passage contribute to the story?

Additional Resources for Alexie Presentation and Paper

- Getty Image Collection
https://ny.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/native-american-civilizations-us-history/#.WQ958mXw-T8
- The Lone Ranger and Tanto TV show episode (Youtube)
- PBS
- Britannica Online
- Youtube (check credibility of the source)
- author website
- government websites
- TedTalks
- *NYTimes* or *Washington Post*

Paper Assignment 3 - Worth 20% of your overall grade.

For this 800 word essay, you will write about a story from Alexie's collection that we read but you did not present on. Choose a theme or issue you would like to discuss and compose a working hypothesis or thesis on how you think it is represented. Gather and synthesize evidence from the primary text (Alexie's story) and from the secondary source(s) (scholarly articles or Alexie's "Introduction") to investigate your hypothesis. As you analyze your evidence and draw conclusions, you may need to go back and rework your thesis.

Drawing on the research you did for the presentation, incorporate at least **ONE** of the scholarly articles or Alexie's "Introduction," and **ONE** other source such as his website or interview video. In your analysis, use specific evidence from the story and the article. You must engage with the critic's ideas. In your conclusion, discuss the larger implications of the issue and the limitations of the text in helping us understand the issue you have chosen to address. In other words, what aspects of the issue does the text help us to better understand and what questions and concerns remain unanswered.

You must visit the Writing Center and an MLA works cited is required.