Name

Teacher

Class

Date

# Literary Criticism Assignment

**Assignment:** For this assignment you will read and analyze a literary critique of the novel *Lord of the Flies*. Literary criticism is the evaluation, analysis, description, or interpretation of literary works. It is usually in the form of a critical essay, but in-depth book reviews can sometimes be considered literary criticism. Criticism may examine a particular literary work, or may look at an author's writings as a whole.

## Directions

1. After reading the critiques, please choose ONE of them to write about.
2. Photocopy the article and print it out. Read and annotate it carefully,

identifying central ideas present within the article and what the author’s

thesis is. You will fill out and hand in the worksheet attached to these

instructions. While annotating, you should also refer to the guiding questions

on the “Reading Closely for Details” worksheet on page 41 of your Skills

Handbook.

1. Once you have finished reading the critique and completing the previous step, you will write a formal essay **(must be at least 2 pages typed, double-spaced, and Times New Roman 12-point font)** regarding whether or not you agree or disagree with the author’s criticism/point of view. You must provide textual evidence from the book as well as the criticism itself to support your claim. Please use the correct MLA heading/header format that is provided for you on this handout.
2. Please use parenthetical documentation (in-text citations) throughout your essay and provide a Works Cited page at the end (you will only be using one criticism and the book itself for this assignment, therefore will only have two works to refer to). Please refer to the handout on parenthetical documentation for help. I would also suggest visiting [**www.owlpurdue.org**](http://www.owlpurdue.org)for any further information that you may need.
3. Submit your paper to turnitin.com. The submission date will be open for three days. You will receive a quiz grade out of 30 points for an on-time submission of this assignment as well as a content grade out of 100 points.

Note: You will not be receiving paper copies of these critiques; they are available on the website <http://rosenenglish.weebly.com> to read and print out. You may also choose to view any of the useful materials on the site in order to help you write the essay itself.

Due date for paper submission on turnitin.com:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**You must write your essay on ONE of the following critiques**:

“Men of a Smaller Growth” by Claire Rosenfield

“Is Golding Calvinistic?” by Thomas Marcellus Coskren

“The Fables of William Golding” by John Peter

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Period \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Critique Evaluation

Title & Author of Article:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What are some of the central ideas presented within this article?

2. Based on the evidence established in the article, what is the author’s thesis (claim)?

3. Provide at least 2-3 specific pieces of evidence in the article where the author supports his or her thesis (claim). Paraphrase and/or cite directly; include page numbers.

4. Do you agree or disagree with the author’s claim? For what reasons?

5. Give at least two examples from the article that you can use to support the counterargument.

**MLA Works Cited**

**Literary Criticism Paper**

1. Book with one author:

Lastname, Firstname. *Title of Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.

Medium of Publication.

**Example:**

Steinbeck, John. *Of Mice and Men*. New York: Penguin, 1987. Print.

2. Review/Critique within another book:

Lastname, Firstname. “Article Title.” Rev. of *Title of Book*, by Firstname Lastname. *Book Title*

Date of access: page #s. Medium of Publication.

**Example:**

Wilhelm, Jason. “The Story of an Island.” Rev. of *Lord of the Flies*, by William Golding. *Lord*

*of the Flies* 25 November 2013: 5-20. Print.