**Essay #3: Comparison and Contrast**

**English 1B**

1. Begin by introducing the book of poetry and the author who wrote it. Introduce Foster’s use of imagery in 2-6 different poems from the book. Compare and contrast the different kinds of imagery he uses in order to explain how they contribute to your overall understanding of *City Terrace Field Manual*: race, violence, survival, immigration, working class life, etc. What do you see as the larger meaning/purpose of the book? Next, spend several paragraphs supporting your claim through careful analysis and interpretation of textual evidence. Write a conclusion that reiterates what you have written about and successfully closes out your essay. (4-6 pages)
2. Begin by introducing the book of poetry and the author who wrote it. Introduce Foster’s use of setting in 2-6 different poems from the book. Compare and contrast the different kinds of setting he uses in order to explain how they contribute to your overall understanding of one or more of the themes/ideas explored throughout *City Terrace Field Manual*: race, violence, survival, immigration, working class life, etc. What do you see as the larger meaning/purpose of the book? Next, spend several paragraphs supporting your claim through careful analysis and interpretation of textual evidence. Write a conclusion that reiterates what you have written about and successfully closes out your essay. (4-6 pages)
3. Begin by introducing the book of poetry and the author who wrote it. Introduce Foster’s use of metaphor and simile in 2-6 different poems from the book. Compare and contrast the different kinds of metaphor and simile he uses in order to explain how they contribute to your overall understanding of one or more of the themes explored throughout *City Terrace Field Manual*: race, violence, survival, immigration, working class life, etc. What do you see as the larger meaning/purpose of the book? Next, spend several paragraphs supporting your claim through careful analysis and interpretation of textual evidence. Write a conclusion that reiterates what you have written about and successfully closes out your essay. (4-6 pages)

Things to Shoot For:

* Begin your essay by stating the name novel and the author who wrote it. You do not need to write a “hook” when you begin your discussion. You don’t need to convince your reader(s) that these works of literature are excellent reads; instead, interpret them, make claims about them, support your claims with textual evidence.
* Make sure that you use parenthetical citations for textual evidence quoted or paraphrased.
* Show that you have carefully read the text you are writing about and that you have fully digested and considered your opinions, examples, and evidence.
* Show that you are really thinking about the option you chose to write about—the novel grapples with complex ideas, so don’t settle for easy responses. Write about the complexities. Think about what made it difficult, consider its complexities, not just what you thought made for good reading.
* Write for an audience who is NOT in our class. This means that you’ll need to spend some time summarizing key ideas, defining any terms that might be unfamiliar, and choosing short quotes from the novel to help your reader get a sense of what the author was talking about.
* Take the time to proofread after you’ve written your essay. Think about the kinds of mistakes you know you tend to make, and watch out for those.
* The take home part is an opportunity to clarify/expand on/subtract from the points that you made in class; this includes adding writing if need be (remember that your final draft needs to be at least 750 words), and proofreading for college-level spelling, grammar, and punctuation. However, I don't see it as a time to rewrite your whole essay.