

OVERVIEW

Write a thesis paper about how one of the following texts reflects the era in which it was written:

1. A satirical essay from the Neoclassical Era: Jonathan Swift, “A Modest Proposal” (1729)
2. A pair of poems from the Romantic Era: William Blake, “The Lamb” (1789) and “The Tyger” (1794)
3. A science-fiction novel from the Victorian Era: H.G. Wells, *The Invisible Man* (1898)

ESSENTIAL SKILLS

The first essential skill: *resource management*

Complete this assignment using all available resources:

1. Time in class
 - a. Seven (7) total days: 5.6, 5.9, 5.10, 5.11, 5.25, 5.26, and 5.27
 - i. Split with collaborative satires (5.6-5.11) and persuasive essays (5.25-5.27)
2. Time out of class
 - a. Twenty-four (24) total days: 5.6—5.30
3. Conference time
 - a. In class on any research-driven day
 - b. Before or after school
 - c. During free periods from 5.6—5.27
4. Access to a computer and the Internet
 - a. During all research-driven days
 - b. During study halls or after school
5. Prior knowledge and work
 - a. Collaborative annotations: “A Modest Proposal”
 - b. Notes on William Blake’s “Lamb” and “Tyger”
 - c. Notes on *The Invisible Man* and its era
 - d. Collaborative satires: process and product
 - e. Online adversarial arguments on the Romantic Era
 - f. Notes on pendulum shifts and zeitgeists
 - g. Comparative essay feedback and reflection
 - h. Paragraphing and the Christensen method
 - i. Transitional language guides
6. Online materials (through Sisyphian High: Regents English 10)
 - a. MLA guidelines, handouts, and examples
 - b. Primary text requirements
 - c. Secondary source requirements
 - d. Note card system: overview and examples
 - e. Word doc system: overview and examples
 - f. Citation guidelines: handouts, examples, and online resources
 - g. Focused citation requirements: parenthetical citation, in-line citation
 - h. Focused quotation requirements: direct quotation, paraphrasing, block quotation
 - i. Grammar requirements: subordinated and coordinated clauses
 - j. Grammar requirements: types of sentences; semicolon usage
 - k. Modified DAMAGES rubric and guides
 - l. Annotation guide

The second essential skill: *research validation and synthesis*

Support your thesis by synthesizing valid research. Develop a methodology that

1. uses the Internet’s informational resources, especially Google and Wikipedia, to find pertinent evidence or arguments effectively and quickly;
2. ascertains the validity and efficacy of that information;
3. records, categorizes, and organizes those data; and
4. blends or synthesizes the ideas or language of others into your own writing.

ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

Your argument will answer one of the following two general essential questions:

1. To what extent does a representative text reflect the intellectual, moral, and/or cultural climate of its era?
2. To what extent does a representative text react to the zeitgeist of the *previous* era?

REGENTS ENGLISH 10 | RESEARCH & SYNTHESIS

You will choose from a prescribed set of representative texts:

1. From the Neoclassical Era: Jonathan Swift, "A Modest Proposal" (1729)
2. From the Romantic Era: William Blake, "The Lamb" (1789) and "The Tyger" (1794)
3. From the Victorian Era: H.G. Wells, *The Invisible Man* (1898)

Taken together, you will choose between one of five specific essential questions:

1. To what extent does Jonathan Swift's "A Modest Proposal" reflect the zeitgeist of the Neoclassical Era?
2. To what extent do William Blake's paired poems "The Lamb" and "The Tyger" reflect the zeitgeist of the Romantic Era?
3. To what extent does H.G. Wells' *The Invisible Man* reflect the zeitgeist of the Victorian Era?
4. To what extent do William Blake's paired poems "The Lamb" and "The Tyger" react to the zeitgeist of the Neoclassical Era?
5. To what extent does H.G. Wells' *The Invisible Man* react to the zeitgeist of the Romantic Era?

PAPER REQUIREMENTS

Your final paper must be

1. 2-5 or more pages in length;
2. typed according to MLA standards;
3. submitted with an MLA-formatted page of works cited;
4. submitted to Turnitin.com; and
5. annotated and highlighted to identify all of the required elements.

In addition, your final paper must include

1. one central text chosen from a prescribed list;
2. two or more (2+) academically valid secondary sources located online;
3. three or more (3+) pieces of evidence from that central text; and
4. three or more (3+) pieces of evidence from those secondary sources.

When incorporating those pieces of evidence, you must employ

1. one or more (1+) parenthetical citations;
2. one or more (1+) in-line citations;
3. one or more (1+) direct quotations;
4. one or more (1+) paraphrased ideas; and
5. one or more (1+) block quotations

Finally, you must vary your syntax through the explicit use of

1. one or more (1+) compound sentences;
2. one or more (1+) complex sentences;
3. one or more (1+) compound-complex sentences; and
4. one or more (1+) sentences that use a semicolon to juxtapose two ideas.

TIMELINE

The most important resource you have is time. Here is a quick calendar for reference:

THU	5/5	Overview; resource review; choosing a text/era
FRI	5/6	217 Lab Choosing a text/era; resource review
MON	5/9	217 Lab Research and thesis writing <i>or</i> collaborative satires
TUE	5/10	217 Lab Research and source work <i>or</i> collaborative satires
WED	5/11	217 Lab Research and source work <i>or</i> collaborative satires
THU	5/12	<i>Animal Farm</i> silently <i>or</i> research conferences
FRI	5/13	<i>Animal Farm</i> silently <i>or</i> research conferences
MON	5/23	Research conferences <i>or</i> persuasive writing
TUE	5/24	Research conferences <i>or</i> persuasive writing
WED	5/25	217 Lab Research papers <i>or</i> persuasive writing
THU	5/26	217 Lab Research papers <i>or</i> persuasive writing
FRI	5/27	217 Lab Research papers <i>or</i> persuasive writing
MON	5/31	RESEARCH PAPERS DUE IN CLASS AND ONLINE