



ELA Virtual Learning

English 218 Introduction to Literature

Lesson: April 23, 2020



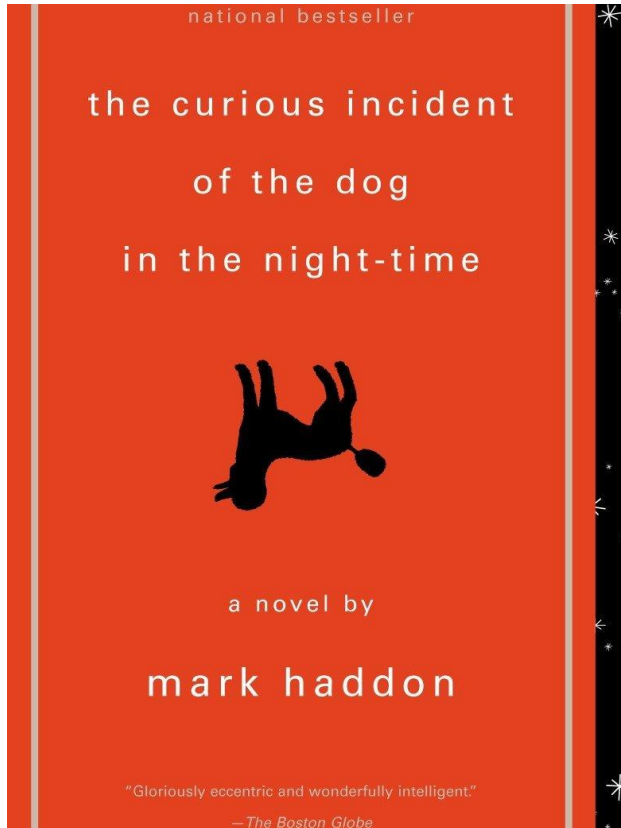
English 218 Introduction to Literature

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Objective/Learning Target:

- Analyze the novel using critical reading and thinking skills.
- Analyze and evaluate the author's choices regarding how to develop and relate elements of a text.

Bell Ringer:



You have your outside sources - or at least some of them - and you have your thesis. Did the sources you found change the focus of your paper in any way? If so, rewrite your thesis to reflect the change. If not, move on to writing.

****Start a document to record your response to this and the work which follows on later slides.**

Learn

Today, we will talk about the order and organization of the writing for this paper. This is not a long paper, but it still needs to be organized, and you should know what that organization is before you write it. Since it is a short paper, you may or may not choose to make an outline for it. We worked on outlining papers in 101 and 102, so I will not go into great length here. Whether or not you use an outline format, you do need to lay out the order of your paper - even if you only use bullet points.

[The Excelsior College OWL](#) has some good ideas for prewriting, some of which are helpful for organizing, such as [mapping or diagramming](#), and [listing](#). I don't care how you do it, but be sure you create the organization of your paper.

Learn - Introductory Paragraph

Every paper begins with an introductory paragraph. A literary analysis introduces the literature and author first, as we have discussed this semester. Remember all rules of scholarly writing (review the No Excuses list from Comp. 101 and refer to it frequently). Using NO FIRST-PERSON OR SECOND-PERSON, introduce the book and author without saying anything that equates to, “I’m fixin’ to tell you about this...”

Incorrect example: The book I read is called the curious incident of the dog in the night-time, by the author, who is Mark Haddon.

Correct example: *the curious incident of the dog in the night-time*, by Mark Haddon, introduces the reader immediately to Christopher - the main character, narrator and “author” of the book.

**Remember, you cannot use my examples in your writing, though you can use something like it.

Learn - Introductory Paragraph

After you have introduced the book and author, go on to say a thing or two about the story, but do not give away too much. There will be spoilers in your literary analysis - it is pretty difficult to analyze a book without discussing the important parts - but don't put them in the introduction. Following a sentence or two about the story, lead to and provide the thesis of your paper. By the end of the introduction, the reader of your paper should know exactly where this paper is going and why. Your introduction should be no more than five sentences long. If you have written more than that, you have probably begun your argument - save that for the body of your paper.

Remember, scholarly writing is not creative writing. Be concise, be clear and get to the point. Still, use elevated and interesting diction, good sentence structure, and clever use of quotations from the book and secondary sources to make your paper interesting to read.

Practice:

- Use the pdf of the novel to review or re-read any parts you need or want to and also to refer to in the writing of your literary analysis.
 - [Mark Haddon The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time](#)
1. Provide some type of written organization; this can be an outline, a diagram, or just a bulleted list. It does not have to be in great detail, but should show how this paper will progress.
 2. Write your introductory paragraph, which begins by introducing the book and author and ends with your thesis. Be sure to proofread it when you are done, checking for good writing, as you have learned in Comp. 101 (maybe 102) and this class so far.

Response Criteria

(Answers will Vary)

- Check your written response to make sure it meets the following criteria:
 - Did you write in complete sentences?
 - Did you use standard conventions (spelling, punctuation, grammar)?
 - Did you answer the questions?
 - Did you use MLA formatting in all things, including a proper MLA header?

Sample Appropriate Response:

Bellringer - Responses will vary, but should address if the thesis needs to change or will remain the same.

Practice: Responses will vary. The following slides show possible responses for the second practice.

Examples of Quality Responses

I will not attempt to provide every possible way to organize your paper; however, following you will find a sample showing a partial outline and a sample showing a partial bulleted list. Yours will be at least a little more specific.

[Sample outline](#)

[Sample bulleted list](#)

Once you have your organization, have someone read over it and give some feedback about whether it is clear and has a logical flow.

Examples of Quality Responses

Sample introductory paragraph:

the curious incident of the dog in the night-time, by Mark Haddon, is an interesting novel which takes a traditional subject of family conflict and adds a unique twist — the main character has some form of autism. Even though it is never explicitly stated in the book, this fact is woven deeply into the story and adds new layers of complexity to the conflicts within. Unique characters with engaging personality features are common in Haddon's work, and add new layers to his novel that breathe life into the story. Haddon did a phenomenal job of building his primary characters, which makes them interesting and leads to intriguing and realistic plot conflicts.

**The final sentence is the thesis, indicating the paper will be about how Haddon's characterization of the main characters is used to develop plot conflicts.

Resources

One can scan the internet and find sample papers for this type of writing. Here is a paper written for an advanced literature class, for which the professor had high praise. The reading referred to is a short story by Alice Munro, called “Boys and Girls”. The title is in quotes because it is a short story; remember that in your paper, you are writing about a long work, a novel, so the title will not be in quotes, but will be italicized.

[Sample Literary Analysis](#)