**Short Story - Essay Assignment Outline**

Write a 5-paragraph essay that addresses one of the following six topics.

Essays should include:

* Thesis statement in introductory paragraph
* Introduction of your 3 main points (in your introductory paragraph)
* Concluding sentence for your introductory paragraph
* Topic sentence and supporting sentences in each body paragraph
* Evidence to support each point in each body paragraph (PPA format)
* Transition sentences to move from one paragraph to the next smoothly
* Concluding paragraph that restates your initial thesis statement
* Creative word choices

**Essay Questions**

**1. Paul’s Case**

Using quotes to support your ideas, tell what effect the changes in tone create for the reader? How does this affect the storytelling as a whole?

**2. Freaks and Geek**

Using quotes from the characters to support your ideas, discuss one of the themes presented in this sitcom, describe the climax, and explain the resolution the characters come to afterward.

**3. The Drunkard**

What sort of ways do the Irish immigrants in the story and the Irish people in the movie use to deal with death? Is death celebrated, and if so how is it? Why do you think they approach death in this manner? Can we learn something from their approach?

**4. The Lottery**

Although there is suspense in “The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson, it is mostly based on the fact that the reader doesn’t know what is in store for the “winner” of the lottery. On a second and third reading, however, it becomes clear that this story is full of horrific possibilities and it is these possibilities that make the tale more frightening after the first reading. For this essay on “The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson, reflect on the subtle horrors that add up only after the reader has made a second pass through the text. Do a close reading of a few instances such as these that magnify the possibility for a much darker ending.

**5. The Open Window**

Discuss the importance of characterization in “The Open Window”. Which characters in "The Open Window" are static/flat and which are round/dynamic, and why are they important?

All the characters in the short story have to be taken in consideration.

**6. The Japanese Quince**

Using quotes to support your opinion explain what you believe to be the most important theme in this short story.

**If you would like to write an essay on a different story or topic, please discuss it with me on or before October 21, 2013.**