REQUIREMENTS FOR 1st ESSAY/SHORT STORY RESPONSE PAPER--Comp. II

AUDIENCE: the class members who have already read your short story (summary is UN-necessary for this assignment).

PURPOSE: to RESPOND to one or more elements from one of the SIX short stories in Chapters 1 & 2 in our class text that we have read and discussed in class.

LENGTH: Have at least two-to-three, FULL, typed, double-spaced pages of text without counting the heading information on the first page. MORE is OK.

****Pre-Writing****

--Pick ONE of the six stories read by the class and from your class textbook.

--Find a connection with the story because either you are female and the narrator is female or because the story speaks about something you know well. (For example, my experience working in a food store might help me understand "A & P" better.)

--Use careful annotations to make sure you understand all the intricacies of the story before you write. (See Chapter 3 in Literature: Craft and Voice.)

****Drafting****

--Make sure you have a title for your essay, other than the story’s title. Use your connection with the story as a “hook” for your reader, to pull them into your essay.

--State a clear point/thesis somewhere in the beginning of the essay, which clearly establishes your response to the story. Be sure this thesis is clearly stated and obvious to any reader. It doesn’t have to be the last sentence of the first paragraph—a traditional place—but it should be up front somewhere.

--Use the body of your essay for evidence which supports your response to the story you have chosen (remember that a quote from the story should be followed by the page number from the class text in parentheses). Also, be sure to explain each point you make thoroughly so that the reader sees how the point relates to your thesis.

--Use the conclusion to reiterate your thesis—not verbatim—and to wrap up your argument, making a final point in YOUR OWN WORDS.

--Use the model essay drafts in Chapter 3 of Literature: Craft and Voice for help in writing your own draft for peer-critiquing and for revising.

--Follow the calendar attached to your syllabus for all due dates.

****Revising****

--Start with your peer-critiques and the critiquers’ suggestions and see Chapter 3 in our class text for help here.

--Use the MLA paper format listed in either of the class texts (MLA format means one-inch margins, 10 or 12 point font size, regular typing or computer paper, no title page, 4-part heading in the upper left, etc.) (See LB Brief Handbook for MLA format.)

--DO NOT USE ANY OUTSIDE SOURCES FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT!!!!!!!!!!! AVOID PLAGIARISM!!!

--ALSO, BE SURE TO USE A PROCESS TO WRITE THIS PAPER AND BE READY TO TURN IN THE WHOLE PROCESS ON THE DUE DATE. (FOLLOW THE SUGGESTIONS ON THE WRITING PROCESS IN CHAPTER 3 OF OUR CLASS TEXT. A FINAL DRAFT WITHOUT PROCESS WILL NOT BE GRADED. SOME EVIDENCE OF PROCESS MUST BE PRESENT. SEE YOUR SYLLABUS FOR MORE INFORMATION.)

NOTE: Remember to trust the instincts you have developed from reading and annotating stories and discussing them in class these past weeks. If you have any problems along the way, stop by my office and see me or go to the Writing Center for help. Also, remember that you will be able to revise this paper, so give it your best shot for both peer-critiques and the first graded version, and then I will give you more guidance for further revision.