

### ***The Pearl* Mini-Essay Guidelines and Brainstorming**

**FINAL ESSAY DUE: 6 September 2019 (Friday)\***

\*Turn in your essay early if you know you'll be absent that day!

**TYPED Rough draft due: 4 September 2019 (Wednesday)**

**Working thesis: 30 August 2019 (Friday).** (ONE handwritten sentence, due at the end of class)

Choose one prompt from the topics listed below and write a thesis statement, plan of attack (POA), and one, detailed, well-structured body paragraph in response to the topic. The paragraph must be **seven to ten sentences** in length, as well as typed and formatted to the MLA standards. The body paragraph should follow this order:

- 1) Thesis/Argument sentence
- 2) 2 concrete details and 1 commentary sentence (or 1 concrete detail and 2 commentary sentences)
- 3) 1 integrated quotation from the text with correct citation
- 4) 2-3 analytical sentences about the quotation
- 5) 1 concluding sentence

#### **ESSAY PROMPTS**

**Think about all of the following prompts, then choose one for your mini-essay.**

- A. The pearl plays many roles throughout the course of the story. Is it intrinsically evil, or does it highlight the evil that already exists in men in general and/or Kino in particular? Is there another possibility for the role it plays? For this prompt, you will choose EITHER that the pearl is evil OR that it only highlights evil (or you may have uncovered another possibility) to focus on.
- B. Many people warn Kino about going against “the way things are” and being foolish to hope for a better life. Is Kino courageous or foolish? Consider both his plans for the pearl and how events unfold in the story as a whole. For this prompt, you will choose EITHER courageous OR foolish, not both, to focus on.
- C. Which vice (or sin) contributes the most to the tragic ending: greed, jealousy, or anger? For this prompt, you will choose ONE vice to focus on.

A one-sentence working thesis statement will be due in class on 30 August 2019 (Friday). *This does not need to be typed.*

A rough draft will be due in class on 4 September 2019 (Wednesday). This **must be typed**. As a reminder, students are **not** allowed to email rough drafts or the final essay.

If you are having trouble with any aspect of your essay, please come to see me in tutoring as soon as possible with all of your materials and specific questions.