Freshman English—*Othello* Essay

Your final assessment for this unit is literary analysis essay on *Othello*. I am asking you to choose a topic, brainstorm ideas, draft a thesis and subtopics and generate a final paper.

**What is the focus for my writing?**

Please carefully read the options below **BEFORE** choosing one.  

**Topics: What does this text suggest about:**

* masculinity?
* friendship?
* being a woman?
* race?
* justice?
* reputation?

Note: Yes, these themes are broad. I have done this in order to allow you to tighten them for focus.

**How should I prepare?**

* Review your notes from our graded discussions. These topics were discussed during the graded conversations.
* Review your final thoughts paragraphs. You should have three strong paragraphs about these topics. Use the paragraphs as you work to craft a working thesis statement.
* Review your notes from your group work during this unit.
* Complete the outline document. You will use the outline when you write the essay and you will submit a printed copy of the outline on the day you write your essay.

**When will I write the essay?**

You will write the essay in class on the following date:

Period 5: Tuesday, March 10

Period 8: Wednesday, March 11

**Are there other important due dates for this assignment?**

Yes, please review the due dates below.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Period 5** | **Period 8** |
| Thesis statement (by the end of the period) | Tuesday, March 3 | Wednesday, March 4 |
| Subtopics/topic sentences (by the end of the period) | Thursday, March 5 | Thursday, March 5 |
| Evidence (by the start of the period) | Monday, March 9 | Monday, March 9 |

**What can I bring in on the day of the in-class essay?**

You may use the outline form that I provide, your book and any notes that you’ve taken during the unit. It might be helpful to organize these notes/documents before the day of the essay. Please know that I will walk around and look through your preparation materials during the essay to ensure that you are following my guidelines.

**Is there a length requirement for the essay?**

There is no page requirement. Your essay should include your introduction, two body paragraphs and a brief conclusion.