**English 101**

**Winter Quarter 2016**

***Montana 1948* Portfolio Essay**

**Topic:**

The novel *Montana 1948* is a coming-of-age tale. The adult David recounts the story of how the 12-year-old David witnessed events that transformed him and his understanding of the world, even outside his town.

**Prompt:**

The novel explores many complex themes. Select **one** of the following themes for your essay’s prompt:

* **Loyalty vs Justice:** Was “justice” served in the end?
* **Abuse of Power:** Is it to blame for the tragic consequences?
* **Coming of Age:** How do the events of 1948 play into the adult David’s statement that “History doesn’t tell the whole truth”?

**Essay Structure**:

a. **An effective Introduction** with a **Thesis Statement** that answers/relates to the prompt question/idea

b. **Clear Topic Sentences** that advance the thesis idea

c. **Two or more Body Paragraphs** that effectively connect to the thesis idea/focus

d. **Transitions** which enhance these connections

e. **A Conclusion** that brings the essay to a logical close

**Critical Thinking**:

a. **In-depth explanation or analysis** that demonstrates an understanding of the prompt question/idea.

b**. Adequate details** that support and develop the thesis completely and clearly,

c. **W**ell-chosen quotations, paraphrases, and citations that are appropriately incorporated and documented in the MLA format

d. **Avoid personal narratives or plot summaries**

**Standard Expression**:

a. **Correct spelling, grammar** (Sentence Fragments, Run-On sentences, Comma Splices, Subject-Verb agreements), and **punctuation usage**

b. **Effective sentence structures**, using correct verb forms for clarity and logical flow of ideas

c. **Word choice** that is appropriate to formal academic standards

**Guidelines:**

a. Write your final draft in pen or pencil and double-space if possible

b**. You will have two hours**

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUBMIT ESSAY # 3 BEFORE YOU LEAVE!**

Thank you!