

Essay 1 Fiction Summary

Assignment: You have read three stories so far this semester from Ted Chiang's *Exhalation: Stories*. Summarize one of them (you may summarize any story in the book if you wish). Simply re-tell the story in a concise form in your own words. **Do NOT quote from the story; write your summary entirely in your own words.**

Content:

- Your essay must begin with an introduction that identifies the story you are summarizing by title and tells your reader who wrote it. Describe the story's settings and main characters in your introduction as well.
- Your introduction must contain a thesis that describes, in one or two sentences, what the story is generally about. You may write a thematic summary, with a thesis that describes what the story *means*, or a plot summary, with a thesis that briefly encompasses what *happens* in the story.
- Your body paragraphs must discuss details from the story.
- Your paragraphs must begin with interesting transitions that move the reader from one major plot point to the next.
- You must write your paragraphs in accordance with the MEAL plan.
- Your essay must be written entirely in your own words; you may not quote from the story or any other source for that matter. The mode of the summary is always composed in your own words.

Format:

- Type your name, a title for your paper, the number of words in your paper, and your class number and time on the top-right-hand side of your first page.
- Indent all paragraphs.
- Refer to works correctly as either short stories or essays. Put all short story and essay titles in quote marks. Put titles of longer works (films, novels, books) in italics.
- Type your essay with double spacing and 1" margins; use 12 pt. Times New Roman font and left justify your body paragraphs.
- You must write a minimum of four fully-developed paragraphs and a maximum of six fully-developed paragraphs. A fully-developed paragraph is a minimum of five sentences long.
- Your essay must be written in Standard American English, making use of proper grammar, diction and spelling. Papers with excessive serious errors will not receive a passing grade.
- **You must upload a properly formatted file of your paper to turnitin.com in order to receive a grade**