

Final Essay Assignment

Using the expert language of this class, write an original analysis of **one new** work of science fiction from *The Big Book of Science Fiction* that you were **not** assigned to read this term and that you have not read or written about previously.

- Organize your essay around an original thesis, composing a fully developed introduction and conclusion.
- In the course of your essay, you must use the expert language of this class. To that end, you must incorporate detailed discussion of the following seven issues into your essay:
 1. Identify the era and/or style of the story and discuss how it is representative of that era or style.
 2. Define the concept of the novum and discuss the importance of the work's novum (or novums), noting how it changes the work's imaginary world.
 3. Define the concept of fictive neology and discuss the importance of any neologisms, neosemes, or alien languages in the story.
 4. Define and re-tell the kind of future history the author has created. Is it a revolutionary/utopian future history, an evolved future history, or a dispersive future history? Discuss the development of the work's future history. What has happened between now and then to make this fictional situation or future happen?
 5. Describe the imaginary science in the story. Discuss how the author "plays the game." Describe the thought experiment/s they perform.
 6. Define the science fiction sublime and discuss how it works in the story.
 7. Define the science fiction grotesque and discuss how it works in the story.
- Write organically, not mechanically. Write in support of an original thesis, using the expert language of this class to analyze your chosen work and prove your thesis.

Content and Format instructions:

- Your essay must be between 1500 and 2500 words.
- Put your name, a title for your essay, and the number of words in your essay at the top right of your first page.
- Double space your essay. Indent your paragraphs. Use Times New Roman 12 font.
- In order to complete this essay, you must close-read the text. Be sure to include textual evidence—quotes from your chosen story—in your answers.
- Cite your quotes and paraphrases in either MLA or APA parenthetical citation style as you learned in English 1101 and 1102; you do not need to write a references or works cited page for this assignment.
- **You may quote and paraphrase only from *The Big Book of Science Fiction*, your professor's reading notes, any websites linked to in the class lectures, and any of**

your fellow students' main posts and responses. You must cite all your quotes and paraphrases.

- This is to be your own, original work, without referring to any outside sources or commentaries beyond those assigned for this class. You may quote only from *The Big Book*, your professor's reading notes, and your classmates' main posts and responses. You may not read or cite any outside sources such as websites or books to aid you in the composition of this assignment **EXCEPT THOSE LINKED TO IN MY LECTURES**. Students who take words and/or ideas from outside sources beyond those assigned for this class—be they quoted, cited or not—will receive a 0 for this assignment.
- **Do not plagiarize.**
- Use present tense when writing about literature.

Late papers will not be accepted.