

FIQWS 10113: COMP FOR NARRATIVE MEDICINE | | PEER REVIEW METAPHOR ESSAY (FIRST DRAFT)

Reviewer's Name (optional): **G. Griffith**

Writer's Name: **Ashley Ellison**

FORMATTING AND ASSIGNMENT REQUIREMENTS

[First page heading and header looks like this and contains the same information \(linked\)](#)

INTRODUCTION

- ✓ The introduction starts with a broad context
- ✓ The first source is introduced with the writer's full name and title of the source
- The second source is introduced with the writer's full name and title of the source
- The thesis statement is comparative
- ✓ The thesis statement establishes the relationship between the two identified metaphors

CONCLUSION

- ✓ The writer summarizes the main points in the body of the paper in their conclusion
- ✓ The writer revisits/reprises the thesis statement

IN-TEXT CITATIONS

- In-text citations are present for all direct quotations and paraphrased text
- ✓ In-text citations follow the (author page) format conventional for student work in the MLA citation system

WORKS CITED LIST

- ✓ Works Cited list begins on a new page
- "Works Cited" is centered at the top of the page
- References are listed in alphabetical order by first word of entry (usually author's last name)
- ✓ References are double-spaced with no additional spaces between entries
- ✓ Works Cited list has a hanging indent (second and subsequent lines of citations by 0.5 inches)

OTHER ASSIGNMENT REQUIREMENTS

- ✓ The essay uses the required number of sources (minimum of two | | one is *either* Sontag or Biss)
- ✓ The essay is between 800-1200 words

If all boxes in the table above are not checked, please provide a summary of the issues for writer's revision notes

Although the format of the essay was good, the introduction was missing the name and title of the second source. I also feel as though the thesis statement could have been more comparative and explicit in mentioning what exactly was being compared between each metaphor. Furthermore, even though there was a second source listed in the Works Cited, I failed to notice a citation for this source within the text. However, the in-text citations that were in the text had the proper formatting. On the Works Cited page, the words "Works Cited" was not centered on the page. The references were also not in alphabetical order. Other than these slight errors, everything else was good.

The metaphor essay is a tricky one in large part because it's a sort of double comparison. The essay is comparative (you're comparing two metaphors) but metaphor is a type of comparison in and of itself. We use metaphor to help understand complicated or abstract concepts. For example, in "Illness as Metaphor", Susan Sontag references a metaphor that likens cancer to a crab. Crabs are clearly not human—they have exoskeletons, are eight-legged, move sideways, look dangerous or alien, are sentient, and prefer carrion. Our understanding of the concrete properties of the crab transfer onto our understanding of what cancer is and what it's doing. And worse, it's all happening inside the body. The concrete properties that transfer meaning to the abstract must be defined in the essay since we need those details to really understand whether the metaphor is obscuring or informing the disease, illness, suffering or pain. The question is, does the essay you're reviewing define the concrete properties of each metaphor and describe how those properties transfer meaning onto the abstract concept in question? If no, what other information do you think the writer should include in the text?

This essay does in fact define the concrete properties of each metaphor and describe how these properties transfer meaning onto the abstract concept in question. The writer did a really good job of conveying how those with specific diseases feel when a certain metaphor is used to describe them, and how it affects patients in the long run. The only comment I have is that although the discussion of cancer is extremely in depth, the discussion of leprosy could've used more detail, along with the addition of cited sources.

Is the diction simple and clear? Is it efficient or do you think it needs editing for superfluous language? Provide an example of clarity or a section you think may be overwritten from the writer's text.

The diction is simple and clear, which makes the paper very easy to follow. The writer has no problem with clarity, therefore the topics being discussed were presented clearly without having to search for them. However, I feel as if the formatting of certain phrases could be better, or more "professional" for lack of a better word. A key example of this is this sentence: "To further grasp the sentence, let's now define each of these concepts." I feel as though this is unnecessary and out of place in this essay. Examples such as this one disrupts the flow of the essay, so I think a reread would be helpful.

Is the writer neutral or are they asserting an obvious position or appealing to *pathos*? Remember, the writer's sources may assert a position or appeal to *pathos*, but the writer's own language should remain neutral in argument. Give an example of the writer's neutrality or use of *pathos* from the essay.

To be completely honest, it is clear that the writer is asserting an obvious position. There's a difference in arguing the negative side of a topic and describing something in a negative way. For example, when the writer presents statements such as "when those vile words are used," it becomes clear that the writer has a specific bias. I also think that the transition from cancer to leprosy was hindered from being smoother by using "I." I think that saying, "I was aware" and "I've been informed" takes some credibility away from the writing, and created a rocky transition between topics. Another thing that stood out to me was "That's all they'll ever be in your eyes." It just feels extremely out of place. The writer had very good intentions and extremely good evidence and arguments made throughout the essay, it just needs some slight tweaks in dialogue.

Does the comparative section(s) reference the actual grounds for comparison? Remember, the grounds for comparison is the reason you're comparing the metaphors. In this case, the grounds are found in the opening question...does the metaphor obscure or inform?

The comparative sections do reference the actual grounds for comparison. The writer does a really nice job explaining why the metaphors regarding leprosy and cancer obscure our understanding of disease, illness, suffering, and pain. Although formatting may be rocky and some more information could be provided in the second metaphor part, overall an excellent explanation and comparison of the two metaphors was completed.

Do you have anything to add?

Nope! I think once the slight changes are made, this essay is well on its way :)

Thank you for your review!! Please save this file as REVIEW_METAPHOR_"WRITER'S FIRST NAME". Submit the report to Blackboard by 11:59 pm on Sunday October 9, 2022