

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

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

Writer's Name: **Dalila Grant**

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

To begin, I didn't really see a clear thesis statement in this essay. I saw a sentence that said what the essay was going to talk about, but not a clear sentence explicitly stating two metaphors that were going to be compared and what their affect was. Furthermore, in the conclusion, the writer did not reference this thesis statement as there seemed to be a lack of a thesis in the introduction. Although the introduction should have general information, it should eventually narrow down to a specific thesis statement. Moving forward, the in-text citations for one of the sources was not in the MLA format. The words "Works Cited" were not centered at the top of the page, and the references had an additional space between entries. One source on the Works Cited list did not have a hanging indent. Other than this, everything else looked 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?

The writer does in fact define the concrete properties of each metaphor, but since it wasn't explicitly stated in a thesis, it took reading over the essay to find the metaphors. Each metaphor was very well explained and connected to the overall concept perfectly.

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 of the text is simple and easy to read. The words used to describe each metaphor and influence are professional and effective. The essay is easy to follow, however, I would refrain from using phrases such as "based on my analysis" in the essay. Simply saying that there is a comparison between the word "colonize" and an enslaved individual would suffice. Furthermore, the sentence starting with "Meaning the patient" should be reworded at the start.

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.

The writer manages to stay neutral throughout this comparison essay. It is difficult not to assert an obvious position when you are arguing a negative side of an argument, but the writer does this effectively without bias. A solid example of this is when the writer said, "When the Europeans came to America, they "colonized" the Native Americans' territory and claimed it as their own. The same idea is being seen with cancer and a patient. Like the Europeans, cancer invades the space of an individual and claims it while "assuming their presence," but the difference is that their (the Europeans) presence did not go unnoticed. Although cancer sometimes goes undetected, it is still an invasive species. Cancer occupies a person's body and "enslaves" them by subjecting the host to involuntary suffering and pain until the cancer is eradicated." The writer managed to talk about a sensitive issue regarding colonization by just stating straight facts and not adding unnecessary emotion or bias within. The analysis here and comparison was excellent and I applaud the writer.

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 here do reference the actual grounds for comparison. The writer clearly showed how the metaphors were used to inform rather than obscure, and the writer used examples from history to support current ideas in medicine. The last paragraph was a clear indication of how well the writer did in connecting both metaphors to the overarching idea that metaphors in medicine can actually help our understanding of disease. Most individuals chose to write about how metaphors obscure our understanding, but the writer chose a point that was less popular and still managed to do an excellent job of conveying their ideas. This essay was very well done. The only thing I would say is that the end feels a bit unfinished. It could really use a few crucial conclusion sentences that would close off this amazing piece, but the last sentence feels like a sort of cliffhanger. Other than that, well done.

Do you have anything to add?

Nope! Excellent job. :)

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