



Introduction to the Senior Research Paper

Choosing a Literary Topic

How to Begin

- o Investigate a variety of authors or their works
 - o Read the works
 - o Obtain literary criticism
 - o Novels
 - o Plays/Dramas
 - o Short Stories
 - o Poetry (Poems)

How to Decide What I Should Write About

- o Common themes in two books, two plays, two short stories, or two poems
 - o Abuse of power
 - o Animal Farm
 - o Identity crisis
 - o Death of a Salesman
 - o Willy (father)
 - o Two sons (Biff and Happy)
 - o Violence
 - o Lord of the Flies
 - o Coming of age
 - o The Outsiders
 - o Social issues
 - o Nineteen Minutes
 - o Oppression of women
 - o Women of Brewster Place
 - o American Dream
 - o Of Mice and Men

How to Decide What I Should Write About

- o Historical background
- o Elizabethan Era: The 1500's
 - o William Shakespeare
- o The 1600's
 - o The Crucible
- o The 1930s – The Great Depression, the Dust Bowl
 - o Of Mice and Men

How to Decide What I Should Write About

- o Impact of the author's life

- o Edgar Allan Poe

- o Short stories

- o Emily Dickinson

- o Poetry

- o Ernest Hemingway

- o Novels

- o William Faulkner

- o Short stories

- o Langston Hughes

- o Poetry

- o Sylvia Plath

How to Decide What I Should Write About

- o Style of writing
 - o e.e. Cummings
 - o Poems:
 - o Haiku
 - o Free verse
 - o Sonnets

How to Decide What I Should Write About

- o Work's characters
 - o Willy Loman
 - o Death of a Salesman
 - o Lenny
 - o Of Mice and Men
 - o Holden Caulfield
 - o The Catcher in the Rye
 - o Scout Finch
 - o To Kill a Mockingbird

How to Decide What I Should Write About

- o Compare/contrast choices made between characters and/or the author
- o Holden Caulfield
 - o Catcher in the Rye
- o Romeo and Juliet
- o Jay Gatsby
 - o The Great Gatsby
- o Harry Potter

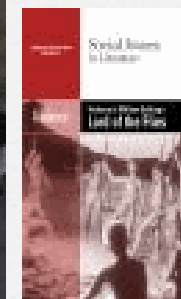
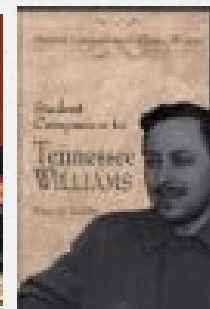
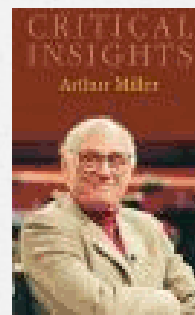
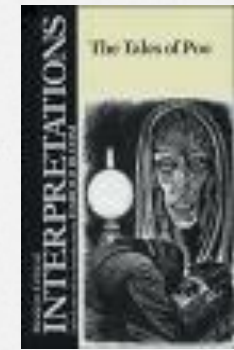
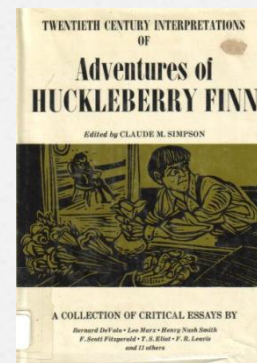
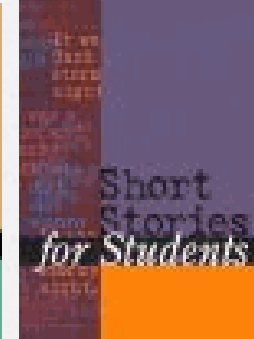
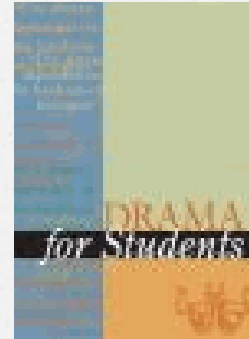
How to Decide What I Should Write About

- o Images in a work
- o Symbolism

- o Poetry
 - o Colors
 - o Astronomy
 - o Objects

How Do I Choose Book Sources

- o Start in Destiny
- o library.wayneschools.com
- o Novels for Students
- o Drama for Students
- o Poetry for Students
- o Short Stories for Students
- o Shakespeare for Students
- o TCI series
- o Modern Critical Views
- o Modern Critical Interpretations
- o Bloom's Guides
- o Salem Series
- o Student Companion Series
- o Social Issues in Literature
- o Bloom's Literary Themes



How to Locate and Choose Online Databases and eBooks

o Use Destiny: <http://library.wayneschools.com>

o Click Wayne Valley – Look on the Home page

o Literary Databases

o eBooks

o Go to the Library Home Page

<http://wayneweb1.wayneschools.com/schools/high/waynevalley/library/>

o Click on Research Resources – Online Databases – eBooks - Literary Databases

Online Databases

◦ Literature Databases

- EbscoHost: Literary Reference Center
- EbscoHost: NoveList and NoveList Plus
- Facts on File Database: Bloom's Literary Reference
- Literature in Context
- Novels, Drama, Poetry, and Short Stories for Students from Gale Virtual Reference Library
- Other Literary Resources from Gale Virtual Reference Library
- Salem Literature Ebooks
- World Folklore and Folklife

Ebooks: Infobase

- o [Bloom's Literary Themes: Civil Disobedience](#)
- o [Bloom's Literary Themes: Dark Humor](#)
- o [Bloom's Literary Themes: Death and Dying](#)
- o [Bloom's Literary Themes: Rebirth and Renewal](#)
- o [Bloom's Literary Themes: Sin and Redemption](#)
- o [Bloom's Literary Themes: The American Dream](#)
- o [Bloom's Literary Themes: The Grotesque](#)
- o [Bloom's Literary Themes: The Hero's Journey](#)
- o [Bloom's Literary Themes: The Sublime](#)
- o [Bloom's Literary Themes: The Taboo](#)
- o [Frankenstein](#)
- o [The Catcher in the Rye - J. D. Salinger, New Edition](#)
- o [The Crucible - Arthur Miller, New Edition](#)
- o [The Kite Runner](#)
- o [Waiting for Godot - Samuel Beckett, New Edition](#)

Ebooks: Salem Literature

o Critical Insights: Authors

o Jane Austen

o Albert Camus

o Emily Dickinson

o F. Scott Fitzgerald

o Robert Frost

o Ernest Hemingway

o Stephen King

o Arthur Miller

o John Steinbeck

o Tennessee Williams

o Critical Insights: Works

o Aeneid, The

o All Quiet on the Western Front

o Bell Jar, The

o Canterbury Tales, The

o Catcher in the Rye, The

o Death of a Salesman

o Dracula

o Great Expectations

o Great Gatsby, The

o Inferno, The

o King Lear

o Poetry of Poe

o Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man, A

o Pride and Prejudice

o Slaughterhouse-Five

o Streetcar Named Desire, A

o Tales of Poe

o To Kill a Mockingbird