

English 111, Section 005: Second In-Class Essay  
Friday, 1 March 2019, 12:00-12:50

Print this page on an 8 1/2 by 11 sheet of paper. Bring this paper with you to the in-class essay; you may write notes on both sides of the sheet, such as an outline, brief quotations, or key points. You must NOT write out on that paper a draft of your essay in advance. The essay must be written on the booklets provided. You will have to turn in your note sheet with your completed essay. This is an open-book test, and you may bring your texts with you.

Choose **one** of the following three passages, listed below, from the texts on the course syllabus, and write an essay offering a close reading of that passage. You may refer, if you wish, to the rest of the book from which the passage is taken. Remember that you must comment on how elements of form and structure contribute to meaning. Your essay must have a focused, critical argument, and must contain, at some point, **each of the following four elements**.

- (1) Comment on a key **theme** in the passage. You may wish to discuss how the author presents a sense of identity or of self, OR to consider how the passage invites us to rethink how and why we pay attention to the world.
- (2) Comment on **at least one** feature of prose (or visual) **style**, possibly including, but not limited to, such figures as syntax, framing, metaphor, diction, visual geometry, sound, representation, mimesis, repetition, parallelism, symmetry, antithesis, comparison, irony, and rhythm.
- (3) Comment on **voice or appearance or persona**: what is the character of the speaker or writer or artist, and how is it relevant to your understanding of this writing?
- (4) Select **a key image or a key word** from the passage, and comment on how it connects to the theme you have chosen.

Choose **ONE** of the following four passages as the text for your close reading:

Fred Wah, *Diamond Grill*, "IN NELSON, MY FATHER JOINS" (pp. 65-66)

Fred Wah, *Diamond Grill*, "JUK IS A SOUP WE ALWAYS HAVE AFTER" (pp. 167-168)

Marjane Satrapi, *Persepolis*, "The Trip" (pp. 72-79)

Marjane Satrapi, *Persepolis*, "The Letter" (pp. 33-39)