

EXAM 1

Matt Turner / Multicultural American Literature / Fall 2011

Grading Criteria

I will primarily grade your exam based on the quality of insight, the depth of analysis, clarity of writing, and reference to readings. A successful exam demonstrates critical analysis of the readings and the use of citations to support arguments. These exam answers should be more organized, more in-depth, and provide more citations than your critical evaluations. Your answers should be organized into paragraphs and you should write this as a formal essay. You should include introductions and conclusions, but I won't weigh them heavily in my evaluation. You should also proofread your exam to catch obvious mechanical errors.

Your completed exam is to be posted to Turnitin.com by Tuesday 25 October at 3pm. I will grade these within Turnitin.com. Any exam posted to Turnitin.com after the start of class on that date will be considered late. You do not have to bring a print version.

Exam Questions

You will write an answer to each item. Each answer for each question should be around anywhere from 250-500 words, which is approximately 1 to 2 pages typed. Cite pages for all quotes you use. Your exam should be double spaced, Times New Roman, 1" margins. Include the standard MLA heading on the first page. No Works Cited page is required.

Christ in Concrete

Job and Faith are competing forces in the lives of Paul. Select specific scenes from the novel that shows Paul's struggles with the conflict between Job and Faith. Using these scenes and the final scenes between Paul and his mother Annunziata, explain why Paul struggles with Job and Faith and provide an argument for the final outcome, for Paul, of that struggle.

"Grace"

Sethi depicts a marriage struggling under different pressures. Using specific quotes from the short story, provide an argument for why the marriage fails and argue who is most responsible for that failure—Grace, Inder, or Inder's family.

"The Indian Wants the Bronx"

Much of this play involves the use of power, and how characters are jockeying for control or power in the situation. Using quotes from the play, provide an argument for how ethnicity, language, and family history influence the shifting power between Gupta, Murph, and Joey.

Citation Format

You should include direct quotations from the readings to support your answers, but because you have limited time, I don't expect you to provide complete quotes. You can use the following modified format. Include the first word, followed by ellipses, then the final word of the citation, all within quotations marks and the page number in parenthesis. An example:

Rowlandson writes that she "cannot . . . me" (247) to assert her belief to her readers of how her faith gives her strength.