TSTCANDI: “Hills Like White Elephants” by Ernest Hemingway

Theme:

The essence of language is to understand one another. In “Hills Like White Elephants,” Hemingway explores how individuals often manipulate language in order to escape difficult decisions. Communication, according to Hemingway becomes less about comprehension and more about avoiding difficult conversations, which leads to living a life of emptiness.

Title:

- How does the allusion to the idiom and custom enhance/develop the title?
    - Research the idiom. Here is a web site to help:

http://www.knowyourphrase.com/phrase-meanings/Elephant-in-the-Room.html

    - Research the custom. Here is a web site to help you:

http://www.wisegeek.org/what-is-a-white-elephant-gift-exchange.htm

- How does symbolism enhance/develop the title?

Syntax:

Analyze the syntax on pages 230-231. How does Hemingway use it to characterize Jig?

Tone:

What tone is created on page 230-231? Is there a shift? How does Hemingway create the tone? What concept of the theme does the tone enhance/develop?

Characterization:

Analyze Jig and the American. How do they enhance/develop the theme?

Analogical Language:

Find at least one symbol/metaphor that would help develop the UT.

Narrative Technique:

What type of narrator? How does the narrator enhance/develop the theme?

Diction:

How does Hemingway’s choice of diction model his style of writing and develop the idea of a typical Hemingway male character?

Imagery:

Re-read the first paragraph. Explain the figurative meaning of this section.