

Write a five paragraph essay in which you explain Emily Brontë's overall philosophy of life based on your reading of Wuthering Heights (and her poems that we have read in class last trimester if applicable). Your analysis should discuss at least three of the following issues in detail: love, human nature, the meaning of human life, nature, gender roles, religion, morality, the supernatural, free will, civilization. Try to use three that you can weave into a somewhat connected overall philosophy to bring your essay together at the end.

Utilize the following scheme:

* Introduce Emily Brontë and the works and the issues you will be discussing. This is the place to provide background about both Emily and her works. **If you are using sources, be sure to note them.** If you seem to know a lot about Emily out of the blue, it will not be very believable. By providing this background, lead up to and introduce the topic of the essay. Be sure there's a thesis statement that lays out your overall view of Ms. Brontë.

* In **each of the three body paragraphs**, choose **one of the issues** listed above and discuss it in detail. Be sure to provide specific examples and quotations from Wuthering Heights and the poems by the author to back up your points about what Emily Brontë thought. (You may use selections from her poems in addition to, **but not instead of**, the novel. **Because you are assessing the author's philosophy, be sure to consider each character's place in the book before citing him/her as evidence of Emily's opinions, as authors often include characters with whom they don't agree.** Use parenthetical notes to provide **page numbers** of evidence you are citing whether it comes in the form of quotes or summaries. (There must be at least some quotations.) Citations to the poems should be to **line numbers**. Be sure to summarize the **main point of the paragraph** in the last line.

* Based on what you have already said, use the final paragraph to summarize Emily Brontë's attitudes about the issues you have chosen and explain how they fit together into a unified vision. Given this philosophy, explain with which characters in the book she would have been most in sympathy. **You must explain how her overall philosophy is reflected in the way the story of Wuthering Heights ends.**

Please be sure to support all statements with evidence. Vague impressions just don't cut it in literary analysis. I should have the impression you carefully read the entire book when I read this essay (which doesn't mean I want a summary).

SCHEDULE:

Due: Thursday, December 15 by class time.

Revision is due by Monday, January 9 by 9 a.m.

Read through chapter 10 of Silas Marner for the next in-class essay.