Description

Task Summary: Choose one literary work from from our anthology (or one not included in our anthology as long as the literary work fits in the time period this course covers, about 1865-Present, AND as long you get approval from your instructor) that can be interpreted in various ways, and then summarize and synthesize at least two scholarly, peer-reviewed articles that offer different interpretations of the work. Finally, EITHER argue for one of the interpretations from the scholarly articles OR argue against one of the interpretations from the scholarly articles. Writing Process: After choosing the literary work, use the Coastal Alabama Library of the databases available in the Alabama Virtual Library (AVL) to research at least two different interpretations of the story or poem. These interpretations must come from scholarly, peer-reviewed sources from the Coastal Alabama Library or AVL. No other sources will be accepted. The Coastal Alabama Learning Resource Center homepage has links to Alabama Virtual Library. You can also get to Alabama Virtual Library through the Library Services page on Canvas. If you cannot see the Library Services page on Canvas, go to "All Courses" and you should see it there. Once at Alabama Virtual Library, The Gale Literary Sources database and the EBSCO Host database (for the EBSCO Host database, uncheck the section of the database that are not relevant to your search) are two good places to start. If you cannot find at least two different interpretations, you will need to choose a different work, so start early. Remember, the articles do not have to be opposing interpretations (though they can be); they just need to be different interpretations. 2. Read and re-read each critical article, taking notes on each critic’s interpretation. 3. Summarize each interpretation, being sure to include a clear statement, in your own words, of each critic’s interpretation of the story or poem and to paraphrase the main points and evidence each critic uses to substantiate (back up) his or her interpretation. Do not use any quotations in this section of the paper. Summarize and paraphrase the information from the sources. Although the interpretations are different, explain their differences and any similarities. Are the interpretations mutually exclusive (ie, if one is correct or true, the other cannot be), or could both interpretations be seen as valid? Do not use any quotations in this section of the paper. Summarize and paraphrase the information from the sources. 5. Finally, EITHER argue for one of the interpretations from one of the scholarly articles OR argue against one of the interpretations from one of the scholarly articles. This section of the paper is extremely important and is really the most important section because this is where you show your ability to critically interpret and analyze. The key to this section of the paper is picking one of the above options and developing a thesis that you then back up with plenty of textual evidence from the literary work AND your analysis of how that evidence supports your thesis. If you are going to argue for one of the interpretations, then you must find and analyze new and different evidence from the literary work that is not included in the original article. If you are going to argue against one of the interpretations, you need to find new evidence in the literary work and analyze it as well to show why the critic is wrong and/or why he or she misinterprets the evidence. A common error on this section of the paper is only using ideas and evidence from the article you are discussing instead of finding and using your own textual evidence from the work itself. Another common error is getting to this section of the paper and