

Question

Discuss the representation of race or gender in at least one text you have studied this semester.

how elements are
constructed/presented

last exit to Brisbane
secret River

Potential Thesis Statement

Through the characterisation of Cole, males are represented as selfless and secretive despite being a traditionally strong male.

In The Secret River ^{River} through language features ~~Aboriginals~~ are represented as ~~being fulfilled through~~ by their having a stronger connection with the land and a sense of belonging, while also being less aggressive and cruel than the white colonists.

Potential Paragraphs

- giving his wages up
- strong in all aspects/thick skin
- ~~very~~ secretive ...

Concluding Sentence

Texts that fit the Q

- White shullo dreaming
- The Secret River
- Macbeth
- Dead White Males
- Porphyria's Lover
- My Last Duchess
- Last exit ^{to} Brisbane

Question

binary oppositions. e.g.



Some literary texts use **oppositions** (such as light/dark, good/evil, and man/animal) to **explore** the **nature of human existence**.

Discuss this statement with reference to one or more texts you have studied this semester.

MACBETH → good/evil

FRANKENSTEIN → light/dark, man/animal, good/evil

Macbeth } male/female.
DWM }

~~Dead White Males~~ → ~~oppositions of ideologies~~

Potential Thesis Statement

~~Mary Shelley uses oppositions such as light/dark to develop conflict throughout the plot. Through the use of gothic conventions and language features.~~

doesn't answer Q...

Society favours the male gender such that ~~men~~ deem it appropriate to dominate women.

- Williamson constructs oppositions in DWM through the characterisation of Dr. Swain and Shakespeare, who represent post-structuralism and liberal humanism respectively, to explore the human desire of free will.

Potential Paragraphs

- 1. paragraph on each opposition

- ↳ good/evil
- ↳ light/dark
- ↳ man/evil

• Binary opposites

1st Para

↳ How Swain is constructed as a rep. of Post-St.

↳ Audience dislikes Swain + rejects Post-St. → ~~he~~ favours idea of free will, hypocritical

2nd Para

↳ How Shakespeare reps. liberal humanism

↳ Shakes. = favourable light ∴ lib. hum. = good/light

Concluding Sentence

What is it to be human? How do texts use oppositions to explore what it is to be human?

What does Macbeth, because of the oppositions of light/dark, teach us about what it means to murder someone.

Human nature is explored as men are positioned higher than women.

Question

Unfamiliar to us
or protagonist?

Language features/conventions

different time
context

Reader
response

Discuss the ways in which texts can make unfamiliar experience available to us. Refer to one or more texts studied this semester.

- Frankenstein

- Secret River

- Macbeth

semester.

To make
familiar(?)

Potential Thesis Statement

convey an
unfamiliar experience?
a new perspective?

The Secret River explores the experiences of the European settlers ~~as settlers~~ invading the indigenous Australians' land through the use of language features and narrative conventions. ~~It presents~~ This experience is foreign to us in our modern society due to our progression regarding issues around race, as such, the text ~~is~~ presents this experience to us in a new way.

Macbeth enables readers to experience a warrior society with rigid gender roles, which is new to readers from a much more lenient ~~the~~ contemporary society

Potential Paragraphs

- Chronological, Thornhill's Journey (backstory - from poverty to power)
- Europeans entering the foreign land of Australia which is familiar ~~to them~~

Concluding Sentence

Question

Australia: home to Thornhill
↓
Not Sal (sense of belonging in England)

Australia: hot
Britain: cold

symbolised a new beginning in new land

Discuss the importance of place in the novel *The Secret River*.

gave Thornhill a place to prosper + make a name for himself

Australia
↓
different environment

Britain

Potential Thesis Statement

Through use of narrative conventions & language technique, *The Secret River* explores the sense of belonging to a foreign land within the European settlers. Furthermore, it then contrasts this to the Indigenous Australians.

Secret River explores how our sense of belonging is linked to place. Even when ^{he grew up in} Britain he felt like he didn't belong to the place... add bit about importance

The Secret River explores the importance of land ownership and place. (land ownership is Thornhill's link to the place)

Potential Paragraphs

- place is ^{linked} ~~related~~ to identity
- place can determine values (Dick - the kid)
- place can have a detrimental effect on mental health (London for Thornhill) ~~the bush~~ the bush for Sal)

1st para.

- ↳ His land ownership & place in society
- ↳ His desperation to own land = desperation to move & in society.
- ↳ In Aus. land antagonises Thornhill

Concluding Sentence

Sal: Her lack of belonging in Australia ~~and~~

Thornhill: His feeling of home within

Aboriginal community: Their home being taken from them replaced with lack of belonging in their newly urbanised home

Contrast between ^{European settlers} ~~Indigenous~~ Australians trying to familiarise themselves with the new land whilst the Indigenous Australians have spent many thousand years on this land.

Question

Frankenstein: Could talk about the conflict between the desire of Victor's to create new life for the betterment of society vs the true nature of his creation.

Discuss how the themes of conflict or power or desire have been explored in a text studied this semester.

- secret river

↓
A position / status gained by overthrowing King Duncan. ⇒ King Macbeth ⇒ King Malcolm
∴ Is power really a good thing to desire?

Potential Thesis Statement

Power is constructed as all consuming through the characterisation of Lady Macbeth, as well as language features and dramatic conventions.
↑ and deadly
~~Power is represented~~

The secret River represents desire as a destructive force

Potential Paragraphs

- Lady Macbeth characterised as power hungry and murderous
- Cannot maintain power for a long period.
- Power leads to death / destruction (once in power, Lady Macbeth goes mad, Lord Macbeth dies)
- Macbeth kills everyone he knows and trusts in order to gain power
- Lady Macbeth kills herself in the end, overwhelmed with power
- Tragic hero (Macbeth) destroyed by his own fatal hubris.

Concluding Sentence

The hunger for power is never sated & will lead to one's ultimate downfall.

Culture: values, acts or beliefs that a group of people follow.

Question

Either Frankenstein or Macbeth (or a poem)

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With detailed reference to one text you have studied this semester, explain how it reflects the cultural values important at its time of production.

context of production

coexisting peacefully
importance of land

Potential Thesis Statement

The Secret River reflects Australian culture through its use of narrative conventions & language devices. It explores the cultural differences between the British colonists & the Aboriginal community which remains relevant to the early ~~20th~~ 21st century during which the novel was written.

Frankenstein reflects the 19th century attitudes towards ~~the supernatural~~ knowledge and ~~the exploration of the natural world~~ gender roles.

Potential Paragraphs

gender roles - Frankenstein as tragic hero saving damsel in distress (Elizabeth)

gender roles - Elizabeth as provider of moral support for husband, and keeper of the home, emotional

science - ~~isolation~~ ~~male~~ knowledge destroys (embodied by monster)

Concluding Sentence