

Source: [KBENG201HoDLitAnalysisEssay](#)

1 | Heart of Darkness Essay

General Information

Due Date	Topic	Important Documents
Oct 13th, 1pm	Choose a recurring word, motif, pattern, or character	Well, what do you think?

Prompt

Choose a word, motif, pattern, or character that you've noticed throughout the book, and construct an analytical, argumentative essay around it

Evidence bin

- *"The African continent had ceased to be a blank space of delightful mystery ... it had become a place of darkness. ... But there was in it one river especially ... resembling an immense snake uncoiled It fascinated me as a snake would a bird — a silly little bird. ... The snake had charmed me."* (9) => River charm Marlow
- *"The man seemed young ... He had tied a bit of white worsted around his neck — Why? Where did he get it? Was it a badge — an ornament — a charm — a propitiatory act?"* (20) => Native wear charm
- *"The approach to this Kurtz grubbing for ivory in the wretched bush was beset by as many dangers as though he had been an enchanted princess sleeping in a fabulous castle."* (52) => Kurtz' image of being charmed ??
- *"The thing was to know what Kurtz himself belonged to, how many powers of darkness claimed him for their own. ... He had taken a high seat amongst the devils of the sand — I mean literally. You can't understand"* (60) => Kurtz as both charm and charmer
- *"Kurtz began his work with the argument that we whites, from the point of development we had arrived at, 'must necessarily appear to them savages in the nature of supernatural beings — we approach them with the might as of a deity' ... From that point he soared and took me with him ... it made me tingle with enthusiasm. This was the unbounded power of eloquence — of words — of burning noble words."* (61) => Charming others to charm
- *"Kurtz had the power to charm or frighten rudimentary souls into an aggravated witch-dance in his honor; he could also fill the small souls of the pilgrims with bitter misgivings."* (62) => Kurtz can charm
- *"Instantly, ... a cry arose whose shrillness pierced the still air like a sharp arrow flying straight to the heart of the land; and, as if by enchantment, stream of human beings — of naked human beings — with spears in their hands, with bows, with shields, with wild glances and savage movement, were poured into the clearing by the dark-faced and pensive forest."* (74) => Natives are charmed
- *"He cried in a whisper at some image, at some vision — he cried out twice, a cry that was no more than a breath — 'The horror! The horror!'"* (86) => Kurtz claimed by charm
- *"'Kurtz had faith — don't you see? — he had the faith. He could get himself to believe any thing — anything. He would have been a splendid leader of an extreme party'"* (90) => Postmortem: Kurtz can self-charm

Claim Synthesis

- p: Establish idea of charm charm => venture into the center of charm
 - River/land charm Marlow

- Natives wear charm
- Marlow thinks Kurts is charming/charmed?
- p: finds kurts as both the charming and charmer => kurts propergating this too!
 - Kurts could self-charm
 - Kurts is both charm and charmer
 - Kurts actively charming others to charm
- p: Kurts' propergating works! => Kurts falls to his own charm
 - Natives are charmed by kurts
 - Kurts claimed by charm

What does this show?

Development phase – How and So-What

- CLAIM
 - How THING THAT ATTACKS INTERGRITY OF CLAIM
 - EVIDENCE and SPECIFICITY
 - So what (local), THING THAT ATTACKS THE RELEVANCE OF CLAIM TOWARDS THE BROADER PICTURE

Defluffifying

CHOSEN THESIS CLAIM

- Point a
- Point b
- Point c

So what? SO WHAT

Now, defluffify by re-writing the three points + so hat in as little words as possible.

RESTATED CLAIM

Outline

- Claim 1: *claim*
 - How
 - HOW IS CLAIM TRUE?
 - Evidence -> HOW IS YOUR REASONING TRUE?
 - So What
 - WHY DO I CARE?
- Claim 2: *claim*
 - How
 - HOW IS CLAIM TRUE?
 - Evidence -> HOW IS YOUR REASONING TRUE?
 - So What
 - WHY DO I CARE?

- Claim 3: *claim*
 - How
 - HOW IS CLAIM TRUE?
 - Evidence -> HOW IS YOUR REASONING TRUE?
 - So What
 - WHY DO I CARE?
-

There is always UCLA Writing Lab