**The outline of The Symbolic Significance of the Rose in A Rose for Emily**

1. **Introduction**

William Faulkner, one of the most representative American writers in 20th century, is regarded as“the leader of the Literature of the American South”.

Faulkner was born in New Albany, Mississippi, came from an old, white upper class.

In his life, there are nineteenth novels, four collections of about seventy short stories, and two volumes of poetry under his name.

1. **Analysis of narrative skills**  
    The story is set in the town of Jefferson in his imaginary Yoknapatawpha County, the “mythical kingdom”. The first person “we”, as participants, observe and describe the whole life of Emily Grierson, the central character and a victim of the Old South.

Faulkner’s explorations of the characters’ psychological reality as well as his use of symbolism in this story are also worth our attention.

In A Rose for Emily, symbolism is the integral factor involved in understanding the theme that is the search for love and security.

1. **The meaning of the roses in the story**

“Rose” is an important symbol in the story, which shows people’s nostalgia to southern tradition, and probably further implies that Emily’s life is just like a rose which remains in the memory of the people in Jefferson Town from generation to generation.

The ingenious usage of symbolism can make a common story fill with profound implications, even beyond writer’s original intention.

A Rose for Emily, “A Rose” and “Eros” are pronounced almost the same, so the title can be read as“Eros for Emily”.

A rose which symbolizes love is a kind of compensation, a sort of grief.

1. **Conclusion**

Although there is no “rose” in the story, “rose”is a very important symbol to connect the theme and the characteristics of protagonists. Reading the title silently, it seems that we could see Faulkner standing.