Swathi Anand 09/16/12

Interpretation & Argument: Section B Ms. Smith

AAA Intro Paragraph

Postmodern feminism comes from the idea that one *becomes* a woman based on her personal experiences in life. Eliza T. Dresang takes this elastic approach to feminism in her essay “Hermione Granger and the Heritage of Gender”. She believes that women, who initially are rendered inferior to males, ultimately gain respect and find vigor, despite their marginalization, through their actions. In her essay, she analyzes Rowling’s construction of Hermione Granger, a dominant female character in the famous *Harry Potter* literary series. Dresang argues that the *Harry Potter* series is not anti-feminist, as Hermione develops in to a strong adolescent woman who is not intimidated by the masculine world around her throughout the first four books. She does so by applying her strengths in appropriate ways, becoming self-determinant, and finding her agency.

**Works Cited**

Dresang, Eliza T. "Hermione Granger and the Heritage of Gender." *The Ivory Tower and Harry Potter: Perspectives on a Literary Phenomenon*. Columbia: University of Missouri, 2002. 211-29. Print.