Today in the Computer Lab

*This is a class set.*

You need your book-of-the-month and your white theme charts.

1. Have your chart(s) checked off by Ms. Dorsey.

2a. If you are ready, go to the computer lab and type this assignment.

2b. If you are not ready, but have your book, read your book and fill out your white chart.

2c. If you do not have your book or have barely begun reading it, ask

Ms. Dorsey for the “Assignment for Those Who Were Unprepared Today.”

Type your Book-of-the-Month Assessment in the computer lab. <http://www.myaccess.com>

Username: yourfirstnamestudentnumber Password: 999yourlastname

**Theme in Literature Assignment**

A theme is the main message a reader can learn about life or human nature from a literary piece.  From the book you have read as your individual book this month, identify a theme that the reader may learn from the story.  In a well-organized essay, describe this theme.  Use textual examples from the story to support your ideas and explain how they support the theme.

As you write, remember your essay will be scored based on how well you:

 develop a multi-paragraph response to the assigned topic that clearly communicates your thesis to the audience.

 support your thesis with meaningful examples and references from the text, carefully citing any direct quotes.

 organize your essay in a clear and logical manner, including an **introduction, body, and conclusion.**

 use well-structured sentences and language that are appropriate for your audience.

 edit your work to conform to the conventions of standard American English.

Use any of the tools available to you, such as the **Checklist**, **Spellchecker**, or **Graphic Organizer**.  You may also look at essays that are examples of those that would receive various grades.

Full points (A+) this time will be a 4.5 or 45 points.  Our class average on MyAccess essays is 82% of that 4.5 goal.

“Assignment for Those Who Were Unprepared Today”

Student name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. Read the story you are assigned to read. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

on page \_\_\_\_\_\_ of our literature textbook or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Find or be given a theme from the story to write about:

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1. Complete this writing assignment:
2. Paragraph 1: Name the story and the theme in a complete **(main idea)** sentence, such as “A theme found in [give the story name] is [give the theme in quotes].” Also tell how many places in the story you will use to show that this is a theme, something like, “There are at least [give the number of details you found that support the theme] places in the story that show this as a theme.”

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1. Body Paragraphs: Write a paragraph telling about each part of the story that showed that theme. You should have more than one paragraph here.
   1. Tell about or quote the part of the story
   2. and explain how it shows the theme.

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Write your conclusion on the back.

Use this space in case you need more room for your body paragraphs.

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3) Write a concluding paragraph. Restate (using different words or putting your words into a different order) your main idea.

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Sample themes:

Remaining calm and cool in a crisis can save lives.

Those who judge others are often surprised when those others prove them wrong.

Revising and Editing:

* See if you can add more specifics and explanation to support your main idea.
* See if there is anything that doesn’t belong that you could take out.
* Work with your words and sentences to make this easy to read and understand.
* Do the best you can with spelling.
* Make sure you’ve capitalized the beginnings of sentences and punctuated the ends.