

Arthur Stein ← Your name
10/18/2004 ← Date paper is due
Showcase #1 ← Which number is this?
U.S. History ← Class name
Mr. Coia ← Include my name
726 words ← Word Count

Suffering and Evil Surrounding a Plague ← Use a creative title

Simply stated, *The Plague* is a novel about evil. The pages are filled with accounts of suffering and pain that the people of Oran experience. Camus portrays a situation in which the people of the town must overcome great circumstances and rise above the present darkness that surrounds them. Evil becomes almost personified in the way it makes its presence known. The plague is responsible for causing suffering to those who live in the town. There is no method or reason for the administration of the pain. The plague is irrational. There are several accounts in which suffering arises from external forces outside that of human control. In other words, the pain in this book is not caused by any human error or sin. Rather, the evil is the great Cause.

One of the ways in which suffering is felt in this novel is the great numbers of the dying. The plague begins its attack with a few dead every several days. As the book progresses, hundreds die each day. The newspaper lists the daily death toll as if it was counting shopping days until Christmas. The plague does not silently attack. Pictures of death and dying exist all around Oran. Since there is no scientific reason why some are struck by the plague, there is no security that others will not soon be dead. As in warfare, the most dangerous and effective enemy is the one that cannot be seen or predicted. The citizens live in constant fear for their own lives, and mourning for those whom they have already lost.

Another way in which suffering is portrayed in this novel is the separations that occur. Dr. Rieux is forced to be apart from his wife due to her sickness (different from the current...

This essay is only for example purposes. It, of course, needs another page to meet the requirements.

Showcase Paper

Mr. Coia

50 points

Throughout the year, you will demonstrate your understanding of a literary concept or theme by writing Showcase papers. You will put your time and effort into writing a thoughtful, intelligent response to the work or concept in question. I have constructed some guidelines for you to follow for these assignments.

Purpose for showcase papers:

- Demonstrate your reading and understanding
- Show that you were active in class discussions
- Provide further writing opportunities
- Offer you a choice in writing topic

Content:

Showcase Papers ask that you *show* your understanding, creativity, and connections. Do this without using the subjective “I” or “My” or “You.” These diminish the power in your writing. Rather than saying: “I think John Proctor is one of the most courageous characters in literature,” try: “John Proctor is one of the most courageous characters in literature.” It’s a subtle, yet important, difference.

Writing in this manner, whether about history, literature, or even auto mechanics, will produce a stronger, more interesting paper. Trust me!

The papers need to have a clear introduction and a nice conclusion. If you have not had much practice in writing quality papers, come see me for help during a Seminar period.

Format:

- 650-750 words
- Double-spaced
- Do not skip lines between paragraphs**
- 12-point font
- Standard font (Times, Arial, or Helvetica)
- No more than 1-inch margins all-around**
- Must be your best work
- Includes a creative title
- When in doubt, make it look exactly like my example

Papers that do not follow this format, or ones that lack the necessary content, will not be graded.