**EAC273 Introduction to Children’s Literature**

**Practice Poem Analysis (10%)**

**Professor Melanie Fishbane**

**Purpose:** The purpose of this assignment is to use what you’ve learned about the basics of literary elements, and poetry and apply it to a short analysis of a poem.

**Instructions:**

1. Choose **one of the poems found in Week 2: Poetry:** “Alligator Pie,” by Dennis Lee; “Life Doesn’t Frighten Me” by Maya Angelou; “Knight-in-Armour” by A.A. Milne; Shel Silverstein’s “Sick.”
2. Choose **any two literary elements** **below** and consider how the writer uses them in their poem to connect to the child reader. Be sure to review the module on Basic Literary Terminology from Week 1.

* Rhyme and/or rhythm
* Speech Sound (onomatopoeia, alliteration, assonance, consonance)
* Imagery and Figurative Language (hyperbole or personification)
* Shape
* Irony
* Characterization
* Point of view
* Tone
* Allegory

1. Write a 200 word paragraph that contains:
   1. An introductory sentence that has a thesis about your poem that outlines which two elements you’re going to be discussing and what you think the poem is about.
   2. 2 to 4 sentences that provides specific examples from the poem. For the purposes of this assignment I don’t want you to quote as I want to see how you write. Instead, refer to the line number and paraphrase what the writer says.
   3. A concluding sentence that summarizes your argument.

**Please see the example attached to this assignment for formatting and expectations.**

**General Instructions:**

* Assignments **must** demonstrate an understanding of literary terminology we have studied, should demonstrate a thorough and accurate understanding of children’s poetry and should display college-level writing techniques.
* You’re allowed to briefly reference the poem but there should be very few direct quotations. I want to see your words and how you write.
* **Assignments must have accurate APA or MLA.**
* **Please review the Essay Writing Basics module**
* **DO NOT INCLUDE OUTSIDE SOURCES!**

**Citing information:**

**For full APA information on Style Guide go here:** [**https://library.senecacollege.ca/ld.php?content\_id=35399759**](https://library.senecacollege.ca/ld.php?content_id=35399759)

**For how to properly include poems or any direct quotations, please go here:** <https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/mla_style/mla_formatting_and_style_guide/mla_formatting_quotations.html>

**Formatting Details:**

1. Double spaced
2. 1 inch margins
3. Orientation should be “portrait.” – like this assignment.
4. First sentence of the paragraph should be indented
5. Page numbers, title pages, etc. should reflect APA or MLA citation guidelines.
6. Work Cited page with correct APA or MLA citations.

**Submission Details:**

1. Please use WORD. Blackboard does not understand pages nor Google Docs and it will make it very challenging to grade.
2. When you submit your file, please use the following file convention: First Name. Last Name. Poem Practice Analysis.

**Note:** If there are errors with the submission or if assignment does not follow the above guidelines they will be sent back.

Please see the Essay Assignments Rubric WORD document for full grading details.