

Grading Rubric

Student's Name: X

Criteria

1. Intro and thesis – claim is clear, contestable and specific; intro paragraph sets up claim and argument	20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
2. Argument is organized and developed	20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
3. Textual evidence supports claim	20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
4. Thorough and responsible use of textual evidence	20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
5. Form and style (grammar, tone, syntax, mechanics, spelling, MLA style, etc.)	20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Scoring:

Total: 89/100 B+

Comments:

Dear X,

Your essay compares in an insightful and creative way the characters of Ivan Ilyich and Kurtz in regards to their deaths and final revelations. You have a good introduction and a specific and contestable thesis claim. Well done! You should try to name the specific mistakes of the characters more clearly though in your thesis.

For the future, please make sure to proofread your essay more carefully to avoid standard grammar and spelling mistakes. Parts of your essay remain unclear due to problematic sentence structures; during the revision process you should try to rephrase such passages for clarification in your next essay. You make good use of textual evidence but you should introduce your quotes in a more meaningful way than with “Tolstoy writes” or “Conrad notes.” It is obvious that the text was written by the respective author, and it would be much more helpful to contextualize the quote adequately in the plot and in your own argument.

Further, please remember to discuss literature in the present not in the past tense. You should also avoid speculations; try always to be as clear and precise and possible and make only statements you can support with evidence from the text. (Please see my comments throughout your paper for further details.)

That said, I really enjoyed reading your essay; you make an original argument that leads to new insights. Thank you for your essay and please let me know if you have any questions!

Best,
Christina Weiler