

***The Kite Runner* Thematic Analysis Essay**

The Kite Runner is a critically acclaimed book because the messages it conveys about people continue to resonate with audience members regardless of location or age. Accordingly, for this assessment, you will be answering this question: How does Khaled Hosseini develop themes that reveal something about us as humans?

To answer this question, you will write an essay in which you make a personal connection with one theme of your choice, then analyze how that theme is developed throughout *The Kite Runner* and what message that theme reveals about us as humans.

You will be assessed on your ability to do the following things within the essay:

- Include your personal connection to the theme in your introduction
- Provide a strong, well-written thesis statement
- Cite strong textual evidence to prove your analysis
- Provide a clear explanation for each piece of textual evidence
- Provide a conclusion section that clearly connect the theme's development to the overall message about humanity
- Use fluid transitions
- Use appropriate style and tone
- Use the conventions of standard English grammar and spelling

Essay specifications:

- MLA formatting (page numbers, font, spacing, four-line header, title, citations, etc.)
- Intro paragraph which includes
 - Hook (strong statement about your overall topic)
 - Your connection to the text
 - Text title
 - Author's full name
 - Character's name
 - Thesis statement relating thematic development to overall message about humanity (last sentence)
- 6 pieces of textual evidence
 - 2 quotes from the beginning, 2 quotes from the middle, 2 quotes from the end of the text
 - Chronological order
 - Introduction and explanation of every quote
 - Parenthetical citations
- Conclusion paragraph which includes
 - Reiteration of thesis statement (first sentence)
 - Text title
 - Author's full name
 - In-depth explanation of how theme's development connects to overall message about humanity
 - Reconnection of your experiences to your theme
- Formal style (no first or second person point of view*, no contractions, no slang)
- Present verb tense

The final draft of this essay will be **due to Turnitin.com by 11:59 pm on Friday, February 14th**. You must also submit your quote sheet(s), rough draft, and peer/self reviews on that date for your essay to be considered "submitted."

* First person may be used **only** in the introduction and conclusion paragraph when referring to humans overall (we) and during your anecdote (I)