

11th Grade Summer Book Report #2

Sr Sabrina

Book Report #2: *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway

Assignment for Book Two:

- In *The Old Man and the Sea*, Ernest Hemingway presents a deceptively simple story of an old fisherman's struggle to catch a great marlin, but beneath the surface lies a profound exploration of human endurance, dignity, and the relationship between man and nature. For your essay, write a **three-page** literary analysis responding to the following:
- **Prompt:** Discuss how Ernest Hemingway uses the character of Santiago to explore the themes of **perseverance, isolation, and the indomitable human spirit**. How do these themes shape Santiago's identity and influence his relationship with the sea, the marlin, and the boy, Manolin?

Your essay should:

- Offer a clear, original **thesis statement** that connects Santiago's personal struggle with the broader human experience.
- Provide **textual evidence** (specific quotes and scenes) to support your analysis of Santiago's perseverance, emotional or physical isolation, and resilience.
- Explore how Hemingway's **writing style** (such as sentence structure, imagery, or symbolism) contributes to the depth of these themes.
- Consider **counterarguments** or complexities—e.g., Is Santiago truly alone? Does his struggle represent failure, success, or something in between?
- Conclude with a reflection on what Hemingway may be suggesting about the value of struggle, even when defeat seems inevitable.

Essay Rubric

	3	2	1
Organization	A proper flow of an introduction, body, and conclusion in your essay.	Somewhat of an introduction, body, and conclusion in your essay.	No flow and/or no introduction, body, or conclusion in your essay.
Spelling and Grammar	No mistakes in spelling and grammar.	Some mistakes in spelling and grammar.	A lot of mistakes in spelling and grammar.
Vocabulary	Used a lot of vocabulary words that you learned from the book.	Used some vocabulary words that you learned in class or from the book.	Used little to no vocabulary words that you learned from the book.
Usage of Text	Was able to find proper examples from the book and reference and relate them to their points.	Used an example from the book but didn't completely succeed at relating it to the point / Wasn't able to properly reference the example.	Used little to no examples from the book or used an example but it did not fit what the essay prompt was asking you to look for.