

Change over Time—or as we call it in English 10 class—Allusions & Evolutions in Literature

Ancient Literature: Gilgamesh, Ramayana, Shahnameh, Beowulf, Sundiata, Odyssey, Iliad, Oedipus the King, Aeneid, Popol Vuh

Medieval Literature: Chaucer, King Arthur, Dante

Renaissance: Shakespeare, Milton, Marlowe, Utopia

Enlightenment: Don Quixote

Romance: Faust, Wordsworth, Hugo

Realism: Tolstoy, Chekhov, Ibsen

Modernism: Kafka, Woolf, Joyce, Achebe, Allende

You will be looking for allusions to these works and authors in modern literature, poetry, songs, movies, games, etc.

You will be doing a compare/contrast essay discussing the original work and the modern work that alludes to it. You will discuss the changes over time that have occurred and how the purpose/themes/symbolisms have adapted to our modern age.

For Example

The Little Mermaid Original Story was written in a society where you were the property of your parents, expected to marry whomever your parents chose for you, and had very few freedoms. The purpose of the story was to frighten children (making a deal with the devil—Ursula in this case) and that it will lead to your destruction. The theme/lesson of the story was that you shouldn't try to be something you aren't. This is just the start—there is more to examine (heroine's age, etc.). When you compare it to the Disney version of the story, all three: society, purpose, and theme have changed. You would describe the changes and then explain WHY you think those changes were made to the story.

OR

Connecting to Literature

Look at

- your lists you made when you read the *Pillowbook*,
- Petrarch's experience,
- the effects the carpe diem poetry have had on society (people have expiration dates, obsession with youth and beauty, cosmetics & cosmetic surgery),
- the original carpe diem poem by Horace—live each day as if it is your last—not recklessly, prudently,
- the poetry by Li Po, Li Ching Chao or the Tanka poems or Rumi's poetry works devoted to enjoying the beauty of nature, relationships, religion
- the story you read
- the contemporary poets' experiences

Choose one piece and write an essay explaining how the author's work, interpretation, experience compares to peoples' experience today. Use **SPECIFIC** details from the poem/story to discuss and compare to experiences today.