

Independent Novel Term Paper  
English 12 – Krahn

**Objective:** That you, the happy student, are able to both read a senior level novel on your own and demonstrate your deep understanding of it by writing about it.

**How it will work:**

1. Choose a novel. This can be done on your own or you can choose one of the novels that I will introduce to you. A benefit of the latter choice is that I have already read many of these novels which means I can help you during the crunch time.
2. Read it. This is fairly important.
3. Write a series of HANDWRITTEN journal entries which cover your thoughts as you read the novel. The numbers of entries and lengths will vary per student and per novel, but they should demonstrate a clear understanding of your book.
4. Write a term paper on the novel in which you develop, articulate, and support a theme for the novel. This paper *will* have the following qualities:
  - it will be between 4 – 6 pages, typed;
  - it will be double spaced, Times New Roman 12 point font;
  - it will be in MLA format;
  - it will be error-free;
  - it will use correct citations for support;
  - it will use at least 2 quotes for every point being made;
  - it will use the novel read as the primary and only source;
  - it will have a proper introduction of an appropriate length;
  - it will have a clearly stated thesis statement in the intro; and
  - it will include a Work Cited page.

This paper will *not* have the following:

- plagiarize *anything* from *any* source *whatsoever*; and
- summarize the plot of the novel. It will be written to the reader as if he has already read the novel.

**Due Dates:**

The due date for this essay is \_\_\_\_\_

The due date to show me your rough intro paragraph is \_\_\_\_\_

The suggested date to have completed reading your novel is \_\_\_\_\_

The date to notify me of the title of your novel is \_\_\_\_\_

**Evaluation:**

Handwritten journal entries: \_\_\_\_/20

Essay: \_\_\_\_/60 Details on the reverse of this sheet.