

**Points to Remember Concerning Your Discussion Posts.
And, I'm using YOU because these are directions.**

- Academic writing requires that you use consistent person. Please remain in 1st or 3rd. Using “you” and “your” indicates that you have lapsed into 2nd person.
- Textual support from the stories help you make your point (and, hey, it's required). Introduce textual support using signal phrases. (Look this up through [Purdue's OWL website](#) or in your ENC 1101 text.
- Use a colon to introduce your quotations from the text.
- Do not use quotations in your text without introducing them with signal phrases.
- In addition to identifying terms, explain how they work in the short story, poem, or dramatic piece. If you use a definition from the text, remember to cite the source. Using material from the textbook—even definitions—counts as plagiarism if the material is not cited.
- The tone of your discussion piece should be conversational, but formal. Remember you are writing for an academic audience of your peers.
- Note symbols, abstractions, and concrete details. Literary writers are notorious editors; details are rarely extraneous.
- Use critical thinking skills to reason out your argument and build you case.
- Take time with your writing, both discussion forums and essays. You might want to create discussion posts in MS Word or [Open Office](#) to take advantage of the grammar and spell checks included in the programs.
- **Having given the previous point about using grammar and spell checks, please read your writing for grammar, spelling, and mechanics errors.**
- Standard English errors, for example, run-on sentences, comma spliced sentences, misspellings, or lack of apostrophes and quotation marks, are unacceptable. Please eliminate them from your writing.
- Show me that you have read the assignments by providing detailed, thoughtful answers that reference the primary text.
 - Primary support. Support from the short story, poem, play, or novel that you are reading. You will also hear me refer to this as support from the text.

**Points to Remember Concerning Your Discussion Posts.
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- Secondary support. Critical analysis about the short story, poem, play, or novel that you are reading.