ESSAY #2 : The Awakening

DUE DATES: Tuesday, April 13th -- First Draft
             Tuesday, April 20th -- Final Draft Packet (all materials)

ESSAY TOPIC

Like many other short stories and novels, The Awakening functions as a literary commentary to offer insight about the individuals and society that it describes. In an essay of at least 4-5 pages, discuss a specific, primary concern/issue (sociological, gender, psychological, or cultural) that you believe is conveyed in Kate Chopin’s novel. What is this concern/issue, and why do you believe it is worthy enough to explore and discuss in your essay? Help your readers understand the critical concern/issue that you’ve identified in The Awakening by crafting an introduction with a clear and original thesis and by developing full, insightful body paragraphs to support, clarify, substantiate, and explain your ideas. Be sure to use evidence/details from the novel to support the ideas you have about the primary concern/issue you have identified.

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Your final draft will be graded on the following:
1) an effective introduction with a developed grabber, transition idea, and thesis
2) an original and solid thesis statement
3) an effective conclusion that wraps up your main argument and leaves the reader with a lasting thought
4) accurate use of examples/details/specifics/quotes/etc. from The Awakening
5) insight and sophistication represented in your own analysis and explanations of the information you’ve used as evidence (Show insight and in depth thinking! Avoid merely stating what is already known.)
6) development and completeness of your supporting ideas (Be sure to explain your ideas/points fully.)
7) unity of ideas (All your information and ideas must stay focused on the concern/issue you have chosen for your discussion (your thesis idea). Also, stick to using information that supports your thesis and major supporting points.)
8) coherence (Ideas and information in your essay and within your paragraphs must all be linked/connected for a smooth flow.  This includes transitioning and leading smoothly into quotations.)
9) organization (Ideas and evidence must follow a logical organizational pattern.)
10) clarity of ideas and presentation—word usage, sentence meaning, logic, format, structure and so on
11) spelling, mechanics, grammar, sentence structure and variety, and other mechanical aspects (Your essay should be error-free and should follow college-level academic essay guidelines. Get help from a tutor, friend, parent, etc. to learn how to identify and correct your sentence-level weaknesses. Also, follow the required college-level standards.)
12) an original and creative title for your essay
13) a correct and accurate Works Cited page (using MLA format/standards—Review your notes and samples of Works Cited pages.)