ESSAY #2 : The Awakening

DUE DATES:  
Thursday, March 24th -- First Draft  
Thursday, March 31st -- Final Draft Packet (all materials--title page, typed minimum 4-5 page final draft, 1st draft, 2 feedback sheets)

ESSAY TOPIC

Like many other short stories and novels, The Awakening functions as a literary commentary that offers insight about the individuals and society that it describes. In an essay of at least 5-6 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? What about the novel and its details would support the ideas you have about the primary concern/issue you have identified? Help your readers understand the critical concern/issue that you’ve identified in The Awakening by developing an introduction with a clear and original thesis and well-developed body paragraphs to support, clarify, substantiate, and explain your ideas.

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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 information/specifics/quotes/etc. from The Awakening
5) insight and sophistication of your own analysis and discussion (Show your own ideas, analysis, and insight!)
6) development and completeness of your supporting ideas (Be sure to explain your ideas/points completely.)
7) unity of ideas (All your information and ideas must stay focused on the concern/issue you have chosen for your discussion. 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 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 essay guidelines. Get help from a tutor, friend, parent, etc. to learn how to identify and correct your sentence-level weaknesses.)
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.)