

READING & ANALYZING SHORT STORIES:

Assignment Description

For our first class unit, we will spend time reading, discussing, and analyzing a few select short stories.

For each story read, we will follow this process:

- Read story & make notes
- Discuss Story
- Analyze Story
- Write a short creative piece inspired by the style, theme or content of the story

READING STORIES:

For two of the stories read in class, you must complete a note sheet that explores the 7 key elements of texts (title, narrator, setting, character, conflict, theme, etc.)

WRITING STORIES:

For each story read in class, you will write a short story of your own **or** a creative piece that either follows or is inspired by the style and structure of the model story.

PRACTICING RESPONSE WRITING:

You will write a reading response on one of the four short stories read in class.

After reading the first two stories, you will choose one and write the introduction and one body paragraph of a reading response to practice the structure. After the last two stories, you will choose one story, out of the four, and write a full response.

SHORT STORIES:

- “The Flowers” by Alice Walker (1970s)
- “Can a Corn” by Jess Walter (2017)
- “Linoleum Roses” from *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros (1984)
- “The Story of an Hour” by Kate Chopin (1894)
- “The Ostrich Effect” by Ifra Assad (2016)

All stories will be posted on TEAMS – paper copies will also be provided.