Lauren Poeschl, Alex Woodcook, Athul Nattamai, Amelia Probst

1979. Choose a complex and important character in a novel or a play of recognized literary merit who might on the basis of the character’s actions alone be considered evil or immoral. In a well-organized essay, explain both how and why the full presentation of the character in the work makes us react more sympathetically than we otherwise might. Avoid plot summary.

1. **Thesis**: Heathcliff, through his cruel actions, appears to completely lack compassion. In his relationship with Catherine, however, his ability to express selfless passion and love is revealed. In spite of his moral deficiencies, this capacity makes him worthy of sympathy. Heathcliff, despite his brutish nature and apparent moral deficiencies, is in fact a sympathetic character. His cold actions are due to his treatment as a child, and the emotional losses he experiences throughout the story.
2. Body Paragraphs
   1. Immoral Actions
      1. Mr. Earnshaw immediately declares him a devil
         1. “As dark as almost it came from a devil”
      2. Wishes harm onto others due to his loss of Catherine
         1. “May she wake in a torment!”
      3. Kidnaps Catherine’s daughter Cathy and marries her off to his son Linton in order to gain Thrushcross Grange following the death of Edgar.
      4. Cannot put aside his hatred for Edgar for Catherine’s sake, which causes her to die
         1. “Catherine Earnshaw- may you not rest, as long as I am living! You said I killed you-”
      5. Marries Edgar’s sister to spite Edgar and Catherine and to get the Grange when they die, destroy their legacy
      6. Abuses Isabella Linton following their marriage
         1. “Oh I will die,” she (Isabella) exclaimed, “Since no one cares anything about me.”
      7. Forces Linton and Cathy to marry
         1. To inherit both properties (Wuthering Heights & Thrushcross Grange)
   2. Sympathetic View
3. Abuse/Poor status
4. Forever affects him and his relationships because of the hatred directed towards him
5. Hindley mistreats him because of his father’s relationship with Heath
6. “He’ll love and hate equally under cover, and esteem it a species of impertinence to be loved or hated again.”
7. Cast aside by Catherine, overlooked by others even though he truly loves her and does not deserve the treatment he is subjected to (isolated)
   1. Marries Edgar Linton
   2. “It would degrade me to marry Heathcliff now.”
   3. But still loved by her, “he’s more myself than I am.”
   4. “He’s not a human being. . . I have not power to feel for him.”
   5. “He had an aversion to yielding so completely to his feelings, choosing, rather, to absent himself.”

III. Conclusion

1. Heathcliff loses his lust for revenge at the close of the story.
2. “I have lost the faculty of enjoying their destruction.”
3. Finally is at peace with Catherine at the end with a content picture of reunited lovers’ twin graves surrounded with “moths fluttering” and “hare-bells”

1971. The significance of a title such as The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn is so easy to discover. However, in other works (for example, Measure for Measure) the full significance of the title becomes apparent to the reader only gradually. Choose two works and show how the significance of their respective titles is developed through the authors’ use of devices such as contrast, repetition, allusion, and point of view.

Heights:

* Passion
* Wealth?
* Certainly not rational thought lol

Withering

* Emotional well being
* His son?
* Catherine withered when she was separate from Heathcliffe
* Heathcliffe withers to death

Heathcliff with Catherine is at the top of the world, without he is at the bottom

1. Intro
   1. Thesis: The words in the title Wuthering Heights mean something other than just the name of one of the estates
2. Wuthering
   1. Topic Sentence : Wuthering is not an actual word, is a stand in for the similar sounding “withering”
   2. Heathcliff and Catherine wither when they apart from each other
   3. Examples of how they figuratively and literally wither
      1. Catherine dies
      2. Heathcliff gets brutish and mean (his personality is withering)
3. Heights
   1. Intro sentence: Heights does not refer to physical altitude, but to extreme emotions
   2. Passion
      1. Heathcliff gets angry at Lockwood after he finds him in Catherine’s room
      2. Catherine loved Heathcliff but marries Edgar anyway, Heathcliff hears that shes marrying Edgar and runs away
      3. Heathcliff tries to get revenge on Edgar by encouraging Isabella’s interest in him
   3. Euphoria
      1. In childhood Heathcliff and Catherine are happiest together
4. Conclusion
   1. Topic the combination of the “withering” and the “heights” are most of the plot of the novel
   2. The passion and lack of euphoria in Heathcliff’s life are what lead him to behave in the unpleasant manner that he does

*Wuthering Heights* Outline

2002. Morally ambiguous characters – characters whose behavior discourages readers from identifying them as purely evil or purely good – are at the heart of many works of literature. Choose a novel or play in which a morally ambiguous character plays a pivotal role. Then write an essay in which you explain how the character can be viewed as morally ambiguous and why his or her moral ambiguity is significant to the work as a whole. Avoid mere plot summary.

1. Introduction
   1. Ambiguity is at the heart of *Wuthering Heights*’ many themes
   2. Heathcliff is The source of much of the novel’s ambiguity, and this uncertainty makes him more sympathetic and helps the reader explore the complexities of the human condition.
   3. Heathcliff’s past and his love for Catherine coupled with his ever-present villainy paint him as morally ambiguous and reinforce the main idea that revenge may not always be motivated by purely malicious intent.
2. Heathcliff’s past
   1. Abandoned as a child, setting the stage for a lifetime of chaotic relationships and erratic behavior.
   2. Rescued by the Earnshaws for a second chance at life, but still singled out for being obviously different from the other Earnshaw children.
      1. Heathcliff was made to be perpetually subservient to the Earnshaws, and this causes some of the anger that can justify some of the villainous acts that he commits.
   3. Heathcliff is abused by Hindley, so when Hindley’s child falls under the care of Heathcliff, he is somewhat justified in repeating the cycle.
   4. Heathcliff’s background and his treatment as a subhuman once he was brought to the Earnshaw house give him some reason for his need for revenge.
3. Heathcliff and Catherine
   1. The prospect of a villain like Heathcliff being in love with a character as pure as Catherine gives Heathcliff sympathy
   2. Many of Heathcliff’s actions and thoughts that are perceived as villainous or obsessive can be justified by his love for Catherine
      1. Heathcliff’s return to the Earnshaw house after running away
      2. His intense jealousy of Catherine’s husband, Edgar
      3. His insistence that he should be buried next to Catherine when he dies
   3. Heathcliff’s infatuation with Catherine is ultimately the feeling that humanizes him, both to other characters in *Wuthering Heights* and to the reader.
      1. If Heathcliff is more human because of his love for Catherine, fighting to protect and preserve his love by getting revenge on others would be a human reaction.
4. Conclusion
   1. Heathcliff is a villain. However, the circumstances that cause him to act evil cause the reader to be sympathetic for him.
      1. His upbringing as a lesser man in society contributed to his cruelness.
      2. His feelings for Catherine humanize him and explain his drive for revenge in terms readers can sympathize with.
      3. These elements combine to create ambiguity that epitomizes the complex nature of revenge as a motivation for “evil” acts.

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2008. In a literary work, a minor character, often known as a foil, possesses traits that emphasize, by contrast or comparison, the distinctive characteristics and qualities of the main character. For example, the ideas or behavior of a minor character might be used to highlight the weaknesses or strengths of the main character. Choose a novel or play in which a minor character serves as a foil for the main character. Then write an essay in which you analyze how the relation between the minor character and the major character illuminates the meaning of the work.

1. Heathcliffe v Edgar
   1. Thesis: The juxtaposition of Heathcliff and Edgar in Emily Bronte’s Wuthering Heights serves to exemplify the struggle Catherine faces regarding status in her quest for love and acceptance.
   2. First Body Paragraph: Heathcliff
      1. Topic Sentence: Childhood’s innocence fostered a premature love between the two step-siblings.
      2. Status
         1. Poor
         2. adopted
      3. Character
         1. Vengeful in adulthood
         2. Bitter after Catherine’s wedding with Edgar
         3. Determined
         4. obsessive
      4. Catherine’s treatment
         1. True love
            1. “Whatever our souls are made of his and mine are the same”
         2. Predetermined to not marry due to his status.
   3. Second Body Paragraph: Edgar
      1. Topic Sentence:
      2. Status
         1. Rich
         2. Spoiled
         3. Higher class
      3. Character
         1. Reserved
         2. timid
      4. Catherine’s Treatment
         1. Heartless
            1. “It was not the thorn bending to the honeysuckles but the honeysuckles embracing the thorn.” The thorns symbolize Catherine and the honeysuckles Edgar. Catherine is ignorant toward Edgar’s kind actions.
         2. Takes advantage of
   4. Third Body Paragraph: Meaning of the work as a whole
      1. Topic Sentence: The issues of status, wealth, and upbringing are crucial to Catherine’s final decision between Edgar and Heathcliff
2. Catherines final decision to marry Edgar reflects her priorities- status and wealth over a true passionate
   1. “ My love for Linton is like a foliage in the woods: time will change it,....So don’t talk of our separation again: it is impractical and-” (Bronte 80)

b) Catherine’s choice reflected the differences between the two men and how Heathcliff’s upbringing cast him out of formal society despite his eventual fortune.

Prompt Year 1971: The significance of a title such as *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* is so easy to discover. However, in other works (for example, *Measure for Measure*) the full significance of the title becomes apparent to the reader only gradually. Choose two works and show how the significance of their respective titles is developed through the author’s use of devices such as contrast, repetition, allusion, and point of view.

Thesis Statement: Significant to the novel as a whole, Wuthering Heights and Thrushcross Grange both allude to other natural locations more complicated than the facades of each property.

Full Intro: There are many works of literature in which the title surrounds the meaning of the work as a whole and hints or gives away the setting or theme of the novel. Emily Bronte’s enchanting and tragic Wuthering Heights is an exemplified sample of how heavily important the title weighs. The title represents one of the main settings throughout the novel as well as the point of view of the argued protagonist, Heathcliff. The opposing main location mentioned and where main characters reside is Thrushcross Grange. Significant to the novel as a whole, Wuthering Heights and Thrushcross Grange both allude to other natural locations more complicated than the facades of each property.

Topic Sentence 1: The towering Wuthering Heights property is dark and not well kept, foreshadowing emotions felt by Heathcliff who resides in the dwelling as well as conflicts that arise throughout the plot.

Topic Sentence 2: Thrushcross Grange, the antithetical residence, illustrates blossoming relationships as well as provides a more enriched way of life for those who find themselves residing in its quarters.

Topic Sentence 3: Wuthering Heights, the somber and drab dwelling, differs from the lively Thrushcross grange in more than just physical appearance. The symbolic repetitions, allusions, and point of views associated with each house foreshadow the respective plots of both domiciles.

Details (25-35):

-Lockwood is introduced to Wuthering Heights and the characters behind the scenes from Nelly’s point of view

-Nelly provides an overarching point of view from both locations

-Wuthering Heights is the illustration of Heathcliff’s emotions

-Thrushcross Grange is more from the point of view of Edgar Linton and arguably Catherine since Catherine chooses Edgar and his status over Heathcliff and the Heights

-Catherine’s ghost haunts the Heights

-Catherine’s fascination with Thrushcross Grange and Edgar begins when she hurts her ankle on the property when hiding out with Heathcliff

-Nelly served as a messenger for Catherine who caused a love triangle situation and who is torn between Edgar and Heathcliff

-The moors between Wuthering Heights and Thrushcross Grange serve as neutral land where no one feels compelled, controlled, or influenced by one over another

-Heathcliff is an orphan adopted from Liverpool by Mr. Earnshaw

-Hindley inherits wuthering heights when Mr. Earnshaw dies 3 years after adopting Heathcliff

-Hindley marries Frances

-Frances dies after giving birth to a boy names Hareton

-Edgar is polished and holds a higher social status

-Catherine abandons Wuthering Heights, her childhood home, to get away from her childhood memories, her past with Heathcliff, and to marry Edgar Linton which boosts her social status

-Heathcliff inherits Wuthering Heights manor after he returns from his leave of absence

-Catherine dies, still torn at heart and mind, therefore is buried on the moors in between Thrushcross Grange and Wuthering Heights

-Heathcliff uses Wuthering Heights almost as a prison for his son, Linton, HIndley’s son, Hareton,and for Catherine’s daughter evidentially named Catherine as well

-Heathcliff’s adopted father dies at Wuthering Heights, Catherine soul died at Wuthering Heights, Linton dies at Wuthering Heights, and Heathcliff dies at Wuthering Heights (place of death)

-Hindley, Heathcliff’s step brother, used to physically and verbally abuse Heathcliff at the Wuthering Heights manor- doesn’t hold pleasant memories

-Wuthering Heights sits on a desolate hill surrounded by trees

-Thrushcross Grange is more calm, orderly, sophisticated with carefully tended gardens and more welcoming decorations in comparison to Wuthering Heights manor

-Revenge is built up more in Wuthering Heights than it does in Thrushcross Grange

-There is a higher class living in Thrushcross Grange

-Wuthering Heights holds more passionate scenes and passionate characters

-There is more dysfunction within the family residing at the Wuthering Heights manor than there is at Thrushcross Grange

Conclusion: Emily Bronte cleverly demonstrates the use of overlapping literary devices such as contrast, allusion, and point of view to divulge the complicated and tragic plot line that follows the characters of Thrushcross Grange and Wuthering Heights.

Body Paragraph 1: Wuthering Heights

* Repetition:
* Allusion:
* Point of View:

Body Paragraph 2: Thrushcross Grange

* Repetition
* Allusion:
* Point of View:

Body Paragraph 3: Contrast in...

* Repetition
* Allusions:
* Points of view:

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Many plays and novels use contrasting places (for example, two countries, two cities or towns, two houses, or the land and the sea) to represent opposed forces or ideas that are central to the meaning of the work. Choose a novel or play that contrasts two such places. Write an essay explaining how the places differ, what each place represents, and how their contrast contributes to the meaning of the work.

Thesis Statement: The contrasting settings of the moors and Thrushcross Grange is representative of the destructiveness of never-changing love, and the surrounding conflicts that are associated with this love.

Paragraph 1: Moors are symbolic of the wild, infertile and unchanging love that is looked down upon and representative of the love between Catherine and Heathcliffe.

Topic Sentences: The moors represent life with unchanging love, and the conflict this love undeniably has with societal order, and class.

Details:

1. The burial site of Catherine Earnshaw
2. Where Catherine Linton wants to venture by herself
3. Where Heathcliff would go
4. Heathcliffe and Catherine play together, a pure representation of their bond, in the moors. Then Catherine is bit by the dog, and choose to turn into a lady. So the moors is a place of unrestricted communion.

Paragraph 2: Thrushcross Grange is a representation of the culture, refinement, and convention that dictates the societal in late 1700s and early 1800s. This refinement is an extension of social classes, and a prison to the love experienced between Catherine and Heathcliffe.

Topic Sentence: Thrushcross Grange is the life Catherine aspires to and desires for the purpose of a higher social order, even though she is forced to sentence herself to the acquittal of her love, and to prioritize order over happiness.

Details

1. ccWhere Edgar and Isabella live
2. Where Catherine aspires to be
3. Heathcliff visits Catherine on her deathbed
4. Where Lockwood goes to stay in the beginning of the novel
5. Once she returns from Grange, Catherine is a proper lady

Quotes:

“I love him: and that, not because he’s handsome, Nelly, but because he’s more myself than I am. Whatever our souls are made of, his and mine are the same.”

“Every Linton on the face of the earth]

might melt into nothing before I could consent to forsake Heathcliff!”

“And he will be rich, and I shall like to be the greatest woman of the neighborhood, and I shall be proud of having such a husband.”

“Another encounter between you and master will kill her altogether”

Intro:

Conclusion:Bronte’s use of contrasting places in “Wuthering Heights” creates a physical embodiment for the everlasting love between characters. These places, the moors and Thrushcross Grange achieve this by representing the desire and passion of Heathcliff and Catherine, while The Grange is order. This representation of self through deleting shows how people find themselves within their surroundings and can become a product of their environment.

Some works of literature use the element of time in a distinct way. The chronological sequence of events may be altered, or time may be suspended or accelerated. Choose a novel, an epic, or a play of recognized literary merit and show how the author’s manipulation of time contributes to the effectiveness of the work as a whole. Do not merely summarize the plot.

1. Intro
2. Tell who lockwood is
3. A rich man who acts as a middleman between Nellie and the reader. He is renting out Wuthering Heights from Heathcliff and is wondering why he is so rude. Nellie then chooses to fill in Mr. Lockwood on Heathcliff’s life story and explain why he is the way he is.

B. Tell who Nellie is

1. She is an earth mother/ double agent who tells the story that we are reading. Through her life experiences with the Linton family and the Earnshaw/ Heathcliff family.

C. Thesis: *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte alters time’s chronological sequence of events to signify that holding on to past full of revenge can have an unfavorable, enduring effect.

II. First Body Paragraph

1. Who is Heathcliff
2. Gypsy, outcast taken in by Mr. Earnshaw

Wuthering Heights Outline

2010. Select a novel, play, or epic in which a character experiences such a rift and becomes cut off from “home,” whether that home is the character’s birthplace, family, homeland, or other special place. Then write an essay in which you analyze how the character’s experience with exile is both alienating and enriching, and how this experience illuminates the meaning of the work as a whole. Do not merely summarize the plot.

1. Thesis: In *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte, Heathcliff is discriminated and is alienated due to his lack of social background and deviance from the rigidly structured society.
   1. Topic: During Heathcliff’s exile, he learns how to utilize self-sufficiency and his vindictive nature to seek and implement revenge upon his persecutors at Wuthering Heights.
   2. Heathcliff’s three year disappearance helped him to gain a better financial standing to gain more power over others.
   3. Space from the toxic relationship between other men in the novel, and the addictive love between himself and Catherine, is what Heathcliff needs to realize how vengeance has never truly brought him the happiness he longed for when Cathrine lived.

**2007, Form B.** Works of literature often depict acts of betrayal. Friends and even family may betray a protagonist; main characters may likewise be guilty of treachery or may betray their own values. Select a novel or play that includes such acts of betrayal. Then, in a well-written essay, analyze the nature of the betrayal and show how it contributes to the meaning of the work as a whole.

**Thesis:** Betrayal in the form of Catherine marrying Edgar Linton rather than Heathcliff drives the central conflict in Emily Brontë’s *Wuthering Heights*.

**Quotes:**

1. “It would degrade me to marry Heathcliff now; so he shall never know how I love him: and that, not because he’s handsome, Nelly, but because he’s more myself than I am. Whatever our souls are made of, his and mine are the same; and Linton’s is as different as a moonbeam from lightning, or frost from fire.’”
   1. Represents a major turning point in the novel. Catherine’s comments on Edgar’s proposal will be a major cause of Heathcliff’s desire for vengeance, which results in a cycle of despair and abuse.
2. “‘Linton is all I have to love in the world, and though you have done what you could to make him hateful to me, and me to him, you cannot make us hate each other. And I defy you to hurt him when I am by, and I defy you to frighten me!’”
3. “‘Have you considered how you'll bear the separation, and how he'll bear to be quite deserted in the world?’”
4. “‘What is it to you?" he growled. "I have a right to kiss her, if she chooses, and you have no right to object. I am not *your* husband: *you* needn't be jealous of me’”

**Details:**

1. Catherine betrays Heathcliffe by marrying Edgar Linton- drives most of the conflict in the plot
2. Catherine’s diary entries about her intimate and caring friendship with Heathcliff are blissful, and both characters end up longing for it
3. Catherine betrays herself by not marrying the man who she adores
4. Catherine betrays Heathcliff because of his social class

**Intro:**

**1983.** *From a novel or play of literary merit, select an important character who is a villain. Then, in a well-organized essay, analyze the nature of the character’s villainy and show how it enhances meaning in the work. Do not merely summarize the plot.*

Thesis: As Heathcliff’s character matures, he develops into a jealous, spiteful villain as a result of his childhood of inferiority. (?)

* Jealousy, obsession, inferiority, spite,

Quotes:

“I wish I had light hair and a fair skin and was dressed, and behaved as well and had a chance of being as rich as he will be.” - Heathcliff (inferiority)

Details:

* Traps Catherine and forces her to marry his son as a means of taking over Thrushcross Grange
* Blackmails Hindley into giving him a better horse as a child
* Degraded Hareton as revenge on Hindley
* Marries Isabella to spite Edgar and treats her poorly
* After Isabella’s death, Heathcliff shows no compassion towards his son Linton
* Hindley abusive towards Heathcliff as kids because Earnshaw seemed to prefer Heathcliff
* Insists on being buried next to Catherine despite neither of them being married

1. Intro
   1. Thesis: As Heathcliff’s character matures, he develops into a jealous, spiteful villain as a result of his childhood of inferiority.
2. BP1 - Childhood (mischief, rebelliousness)
   1. Topic Sentence: Heathcliff’s was characterized by abuse and humiliation.
      1. Status as an orphan/outsider

* Hated by Hindley
* Marked as different by skin color
* Poor
* “The villain scowls so plainly in his face; would it not be a kindness to the country to hang him at once, before he shows his nature in acts as well as features?”
* “‘Frightful thing! Put him in the cellar, Papa.”

1. BP2 - Adulthood (vengefulness, spite)
   1. Topic Sentence: By the time Heathcliff reaches adulthood, vindictiveness and jealousy dominate his purpose in life.
      1. Heathcliff lives to make everyone who made him suffer as a child pay
      2. Revenge on Hindley through Hareton and taking control of Wuthering Heights
      3. Revenge on Edgar by marrying Isabella
      4. Forced Edgar’s daughter to marry his son while Edgar was on his death bed
   2. Quotes / Examples:
      1. “Treachery and violence are just a return for treachery and violence.”
      2. “Gold won’t have the satisfaction that I shall.”
2. BP2(?) - Old age (hopelessness, despair)
   1. Topic Sentence: Despite Heathcliff’s initial drive for revenge, his anger eventually fades away and dies with his enemies.
   2. Quotes / Examples
      1. “The entire world is a dreadful collection of memoranda that she did exist, and that I have lost her.”
      2. “I have nearly attained my heaven; and that of others is altogether unvalued and uncoveted by me.”
3. Conclusion(?)

**2015 AP Question 3**

In literary works, cruelty often functions as a crucial motivation or a major social or political factor. Select a novel, play, or epic poem in which acts of cruelty are important to the theme. Then write a well-developed essay analyzing how cruelty functions in the work as a whole and what the cruelty reveals about the perpetrator and/or victim.

Thesis Statement

Heathcliff's need for revenge motivates his desire to be with Catherine and he does not care who he hurts while executing it.

Quotes

#### “He has been blaming our father for treating H. too liberally; and swears he will reduce him to his right place” (pg18)

#### “I’m trying to settle how I shall pay Hindley back. I don’t care how long I wait, if I can only do it at last. I hope he will not die before I do!” (pg48)

#### “Oh, damnation! I will have it back; and I’ll have his gold too; and then his blood; and hell shall have his soul! It will be ten times blacker with that guest than ever it was before!’” (pg110)

Details

Hindley takes revenge on Heathcliff for taking his place at Wuthering Heights by denying him an education, and in the process separates Heathcliff and [Catherine](http://www.litcharts.com/lit/wuthering-heights/characters/catherine-earnshaw-linton). Heathcliff then takes revenge upon Hindley by, first, dispossessing Hindley of Wuthering Heights and by denying an education to [Hareton](http://www.litcharts.com/lit/wuthering-heights/characters/hareton-earnshaw), Hindley's son. Heathcliff also seeks revenge on Edgar for marrying Catherine by marrying Cathy to [Linton](http://www.litcharts.com/lit/wuthering-heights/characters).

Introductory Paragraph

Heathcliff’s dissatisfaction with Catherine and the lack of of respect and dignity towards Heathcliff by Hindley prompts Heathcliff to take action. Heathcliff's need for revenge motivates his desire to be with Catherine and he does not care who he hurts while executing it.