**Analysis Activities for *Bless Me Ultima* or *Catcher in the Rye***

**Objectives:**

* Analyze how the speaker/main character responds to the conditions of a particular place and time, and how this influences an internal or external argument
* Analyze how the tension between outward conformity and inward questioning creates internal or external arguments
* Analyze how a speaker/main character uses rhetoric to develop his/her overall claim
* Use a thematic prompt/perspective to develop a comprehensive literary analysis

**Assignment: You will analyze/pre-write for the following topics in groups, and then complete individual original written analysis for each activity.** **Remember that the essay/written portion is to written independently.** Both activities will be loaded in turnitin.com into the same assignment slot: Analysis Activities Bless Me/Catcher. You may type your written analysis on your electronic device in class.

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**Analysis Activity #1: Annotations, Pre-Writing and Rhetoric Analysis Paragraphs**

**Student Written Response:** Annotate your novels for the following (find at least 2 examples of each prompt):

* How the/main character responds to the conditions of a particular place and time and how this response presents itself as an internal or external character argument
* Analyze the tension between outward conformity and inward questioning and how this tension presents itself as an internal or external character argument

**Group Discussion and Pre-Writing/Annotations:** Share annotations. Create a chart that documents the given claim, 1 warrant and 2 rhetorical devices for each example.

**Individual Student Written Rhetorical Analysis Response:**

Write one rhetorical analysis paragraph for each of the above prompts. You will submit both the planning chart and the paragraphs

**Analysis Activity #2: Literary Analysis Essay. Drafting and Editing your Summer Reading Essay**

**Summer Writing Assignment I**: Address ONE of the following prompts for either novel, *Bless Me Ultima* or *Catcher in the Rye*. Use text evidence to create a full analysis.

**Topic A.** “*And, after all, our surroundings influence our lives and characters as much as fate, destiny or any supernatural agency*.” Pauline Hopkins, *Contending Forces.* **Choose a novel in which cultural, physical, or geographical surroundings shape psychological or moral traits in a character**. Then write a well-organized essay in which you **analyze how surroundings affect this character and illuminate the meaning of the work as a whole.** Avoid plot summary**.**

**Topic B.** In many works of literature, a physical or emotional journey plays a central role. Choose a novel in which **a physical or emotional journey is an important element and discuss how the journey adds to the meaning of the work as a whole**. Avoid mere plot summary.

**Topic C.** Often a character in literature is affected by a death that becomes the redefining moment in the character’s life.  Choose a novel and write an essay in which you analyze how the **character’s experience with a death redefines their life,** and how this experience illuminates the meaning of the work as a whole. Do not merely summarize the plot.

**Pre-writing/drafting activities:** literature circle discussions with imaging charts

**Drafting/Editing:** Developing deeper commentary in analysis through writing exercises; peer edits

**Final Draft:** MLA format