

## ***Fireside Poets Writing Assignment***

Read the **five** assigned Fireside Poet poems (“Thanatopsis” by William Cullen Bryant, “The Tide Rises, The Tide Falls” by Henry Wordsworth Longfellow, “A Psalm of Life” by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, “Old Ironsides” by Oliver Wendell Holmes, “The First Snowfall” by James Russell Lowell).

Choose the **three** poems that you believe you understand best and are best equipped to write about, and write an essay analyzing the common **theme** of the poems. Write a **five** paragraph essay that includes a well-written introductory paragraph, **three** body paragraphs, and a conclusion paragraph. The introductory paragraph should introduce the Romantic Period, then each poem and author, and finally conclude in a thesis statement that lets the reader know what the entire paper will be about (hint: all three poems address the theme of death from differing perspectives).

Include three body paragraphs that each address a different poem. The topic sentence of each body paragraph should give an overall summary of how that poem addresses death. Provide clear support for your theory by including lines of text quoted from the poems that are correctly cited (see handout on quoting poetry in a paper).

The conclusion paragraph should restate (not *repeat*) your thesis statement. Then make an interesting or insightful point about something you learned through the process of composing your essay. Edit **WELL**. Review the grading rubric to ensure the highest grade possible.

## ***Fireside Poets Writing Assignment***

Read the **five** assigned Fireside Poet poems (“Thanatopsis” by William Cullen Bryant, “The Tide Rises, The Tide Falls” by Henry Wordsworth Longfellow, “A Psalm of Life” by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, “Old Ironsides” by Oliver Wendell Holmes, “The First Snowfall” by James Russell Lowell).

Choose the **three** poems that you believe you understand best and are best equipped to write about, and write an essay analyzing the common **theme** of the poems. Write a **five** paragraph essay that includes a well-written introductory paragraph, **three** body paragraphs, and a conclusion paragraph. The introductory paragraph should introduce the Romantic Period, then each poem and author, and finally conclude in a thesis statement that lets the reader know what the entire paper will be about (hint: all three poems address the theme of death from differing perspectives).

Include three body paragraphs that each address a different poem. The topic sentence of each body paragraph should give an overall summary of how that poem addresses death. Provide clear support for your theory by including lines of text quoted from the poems that are correctly cited (see handout on quoting poetry in a paper).

The conclusion paragraph should restate (not *repeat*) your thesis statement. Then make an interesting or insightful point about something you learned through the process of composing your essay. Edit **WELL**. Review the grading rubric to ensure the highest grade possible.