Questions about Joan Didion’s “Santa Ana Winds”

Please try to answer on the Bedford web site. If you are unable to do that, answer the questions on this paper and then print and turn them in to Mr. Berger. Don’t forget to include your name and period. Thanks!

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|  | 1. Why do you think Didion felt compelled to write about the Santa Ana? Consider whether she might have had a dual PURPOSE.

2. Didion alternates between passages of mostly objective and mostly subjective description. What is the DOMINANT IMPRESSION she creates of the Santa Ana wind? What effect does it have on residents of Los Angeles?

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|  | 1. Explain what Didion means by a “mechanistic view of human behavior.” What would the opposite of such a view of human behavior be?
2. **OTHER METHODS** This essay is full of EXAMPLES of the wind’s EFFECTS on human beings. What effects does Didion focus on? How do these examples help her achieve her purpose?
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