Study Guide for Semester Final 1/2014 – WTP

I will provide your scantron; you must provide your own #2 pencil and eraser

Grammar: Commas in parenthetical expressions, Oxford comma (serial comma) in lists, joining two independent clauses with a comma and a conjunction (know your conjunctions), correct use of semicolon, eliminating run ons and comma splices, correct usage of apostrophes, parallelism (multiple choice)

Identifying usage of literary and rhetorical terms and techniques: simile, metaphor, hyperbole, understatement, rhetorical questions, parallelism, antithesis, anaphora (see pp 316-317 and 321-325), allusion, personification, denotation, connotation, theme, thesis (implicit and explicit), diction, tone, ethos, pathos, logos, satire, irony, Toulmin argument (claim, qualifier, reason, evidence, warrant, backing – Chapter 7 of Everything’s An Argument) – (multiple choice)

The short answer / short essay portion will include words, phrases, and quotes from texts we’ve read. You will provide the context and the significance. Texts covered: the chapters of Frederick Douglass, Emerson’s “Self-Reliance,” Chapter 1 of “Nature,” Thoreau’s “Civil Disobedience,” Huck Finn

Please bring your own notebook paper or get a blue / green book from the student bookstore or student government.

**Please complete this essay in advance of class:**

Ernest Hemingway famously said that “All modern American literature comes from one book by Mark Twain called Huckleberry Finn. American writing comes from that. There was nothing before. There has been nothing as good since.” Since then, the novel, which some call THE great American novel, has seen more than its fair share of controversy, some of which we’ve discussed in class.

Read the two critical essays (one by Jane Smiley and another by Toni Morrison). They present contrasting viewpoints on Huckleberry Finn as a classic of American Literature. In a well-organized essay that contains a clear introduction, thesis sentence, and strong supporting paragraphs, take your own stand on the novel. You must address both Smiley’s and Morrison’s argument, as well as present your own. You must also quote directly from Huck Finn, the text. Please ensure that all quotations use MLA formatting for in-text citations and that you include a correctly formatted Works Cited page. You have resources in The Bedford Reader, Everything’s an Argument, and online (The OWL at Purdue and CSN Library website have excellent information). Your essay should be typed, doubled-spaced and between 3 and 5 pages.