

Name

AML 2070-0481

Hink

March 04, 2009

Title of Essay with *Literature Selection Formatted*
(*example: The Postmodern Historicity of Ragtime*)

This document is an example that shows the **correct formatting**: 1” margins; double-spaced; standard font face (absolutely **not** Arial, Calibri, or Courier), and font size (between 10-12 pt.).

Note: no extra spacing between paragraphs; (MS Word 2007 **default** is 10pt spacing after paragraphs, which is incorrect! Do not use Word 2007 default “style” – be sure to modify.)

Remember to *integrate* quotations, with **signal phrases** and grammatically-correct sentences.

Vary signal phrases: Hink writes, “There are many appropriate signal phrases other than ‘writes’” (26).

Also remember to use both **direct quotes** and **paraphrases** as your examples, while always **citing** the material in MLA format. Literature should always be discussed in **present tense**, with titles appropriately formatted: *Novel*, “Short Story,” *Play*, “Poem.”

Don’t forget a **title**! Titles should be both logical and *clever*, alluding to your thesis but concise, (so *not* your entire thesis). By my standards, the above is fairly general and boring – and yet more concise and more effective than something like “The Postmodern Historicity of *Ragtime*: Reproducibility as the Function of Myth?” Note that I’ve also avoided **cliché** titling, which English majors often produce in their hyper-cleverness: “*Prisca Theologia*: Or, How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love *Ragtime*’s Historicity.” In both your title and all academic writing, **avoid** clichés, puns, irony, sarcasm, idioms (especially figurative expressions), jargon, colloquial language, and slang – think of formal academic writing as an argument, of which your audience is highly attentive to your **rhetoric**, as it factors in your effectiveness. This might sound like precluding all of the fun of presenting insights – however, you can enjoy stating clever insights *about* the text, as long as in formal rhetorical style.

Finally, remember to format your file using *Save As...* either **.rtf** (rich-text file) or **.doc** (Word 97-2003). So it should appear just like this file: “Hink Essay 1.rtf” (**substituting your last name for mine**).