Senior English

As I have mentioned over the past few weeks, the final assignment for *Splendid Suns* is an explication. Before selecting your passage, you need to determine your understanding of Hosseini’s message. What does Hosseini suggest about family, religion, gender, justice or another topic of your choice? Review your final thoughts paragraphs to begin choosing possible passages. Once you think you have found a passage, ask yourself the following:

* Is this passage rich enough to explore and spend a several paragraphs connecting literary device to theme?
* How does Hosseini’s use of literary devices in this passage help him to establish a specific theme?

After you receive your possible passages document, select one of the approved passages. Begin to mark up the passage to identify the literary devices, syntax, word choice, tone, etc. Pay particular attention to diction and tone. Mark everything that you see.

Begin your essay by copying the passage from the text. Be sure that it is single-spaced and the margins are justified. Be sure to cite the author and page number. Then skip two lines and begin your essay. Start with a short introduction in which you identify the work and author and indicate the scene and literary elements that you will examine. Give readers some context for the passage but avoid summarizing the story. End your introduction with an assertion in which you make a statement about why this passage is central to the novel as a whole and how it shows a specific theme.

The body of your essay will contain your analysis of the passage. In other words, you will move through the passage carefully examining the literary aspects to prove your assertion. Your body paragraphs should demonstrate your understanding of the literary aspects and how they function in the passage.

Finally, include a conclusion that synthesizes the points that you have made. You will need to show that you understand how the literary devices work together to create meaning. Be sure to emphasize the theme that you believe Hosseini shows in the passage.

Your must include quotes from the passage and you may include brief (and cited) quotes from other parts of the story to offer additional support and demonstrate that your interpretation pertains to the whole story.

**Explication details:**

Approximately 750 words, single-spaced, standard font

**Work Time & Due Dates**

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| Possible passage | Monday, October 7 |
| Annotated Passage (due by the end of class) | Monday, October 7 |
| Work time | Tuesday, October 8  Thursday, October 10 |
| Rough draft (due by the start of class) | Tuesday, October 15 |
| Final essay due  (upload to Schoology by the start of class) | Thursday, October 17 |