**Essay 2: Poetry Analysis**

Choose **one** of the following topics and write a 4-5 page essay in MLA format. See rubric for additional items that you should take into consideration when writing this essay. Your essay should be written in Times New Roman 12 point font with one inch margins. Although you must employ **at least two secondary sources** and literary criticism in your essay, your primary source for evidence to support your thesis should be the text. This paper counts for 20% of your final grade.

**Option 1:** Write an explication essay on any **one** of the assigned poems. This will require breaking down and analyzing the poem line by line. Obviously, you will want to pick a poem of a moderate length.

**Option 2:** Write an essay explaining how a particular poem conforms to the literary conventions of the period. (ie.the Romantic period, the Victorian period, postmodernism, etc.)

**Grading Rubric**

Introduction is interesting and appropriately familiarizes the reader with the topic: 10 points

Paper contains a clear, easily discernable thesis statement: 20 points

Body paragraphs support and further explain the thesis statement: 20 points

The paper is written in grammatical, standard English: 10 points

The essay contains two secondary sources that are relevant to the topic and are well incorporated into the paper: 20 points

Paper adheres to MLA format, including heading, header, and works cited: 10 points

Conclusion effectively provides a sense of completeness and closure to the paper: 10 points