

8G:01:72|Creative Work

Due date: Wednesday, November 20 (5 pm)

Where/how to submit: ICON DropBox and bring hard copy to class

Length: 2-3 double-spaced pages (12-point Times New Roman font, 1" margins all around document)

This assignment gives you the opportunity to respond to one of the novels we have read (either *Wuthering Heights* or *The Handmaid's Tale*) by crafting a postscript.

What is a postscript?

A postscript is an addendum to a work—a concluding note about events that unfurled after the dialogue and narration cut off. Sometimes these events will be described by the narrator (or one of the narrators) of the story. Sometimes they will be recounted by one of the characters in the novel. Or sometimes an intelligence agency (like a newspaper or government organization) will report the events.

What do I need to think about in writing this postscript?

- Which novel has a conclusion that you would like to alter by adding additional information, more bits of a storyline, to it? Were you dissatisfied with the ending of either novel? If so, what would you add to make it end the way you think it should end? *Keep in mind that you cannot remove events that have happened prior to your postscript; you can only build on them by adding additional information.*
- Who will “voice” the material in your postscript? The original narrator(s)? A character? A ghost of a character? A reporting agency?
- How might you ensure that your contribution “stays true” to the original text? Remember the context of the novel’s publication. Certain things just can’t happen in a 19th-century text, for example—like Cathy can’t become a landowner once she marries Hareton (her property transfers to him).
- If sections in the original book you’re working with have been titled, what will you title your postscript?

This assignment gives you the opportunity to be creative, so have fun with your postscript. The 2-3 pages should be written as though they would appear right after the story’s current conclusion. Since you will be discussing the creative works in class, make sure that you think about—and perhaps even take notes regarding—your creative choices: Why did you choose what/who you chose to narrate the postscript? Why did you add this material to the story? How does it change the story and some of its overarching themes? What elements from the original novel did you keep in the postscript (i.e., any symbols? refrains? motifs)?