

Precision Essay Excerpt  
II.9

The stone faces on the outer walls stared blindly at the black night for three heavy hours; for three heavy hours, the horses in the stables rattled at their racks, the dogs barked, and the owl made a noise with very little resemblance in it to the noise conventionally assigned to the owl by men-poets. But it is the obstinate custom of such creatures hardly ever to say what is set down for them.

For three heavy hours, the stone faces of the chateau, lion and human, stared blindly at the night. Dead darkness lay on all the landscape, dead darkness added its own hush to the hushing dust on all the roads. The burial-place had got to the pass that its little heaps of poor grass were undistinguishable from one another; the figure on the Cross might have come down, for anything that could be seen of it. In the village, taxers and taxed were fast asleep. Dreaming, perhaps, of banquets, as the starved usually do, and of ease and rest, as the driven slave and the yoked ox may, its lean inhabitants slept soundly, and were fed and freed.

Lighter and lighter, until at last the sun touched the tops of the still trees, and poured its radiance over the hill. In the glow, the water of the chateau fountain seemed to turn to blood, and the stone faces crimsoned. The carol of the birds was loud and high, and, on the weather-beaten sill of the great window of the bed-chamber of Monsieur the Marquis, one little bird sang its sweetest song with all its might. At this, the nearest stone face seemed to stare amazed, and, with open mouth, and dropped under-jaw, looked awe-stricken.

the fate of one is inseparable from the other

humans as animals

stone faces

fountains

doesn't notice

light + dark

3 hours just before sunrise  
people are sleeping but animals are awake

aristocracy  
revolutionaries  
killing marquis symbolic start to revolution to sunrise

aristo.  
revolutionaries  
"flows" = strength  
"unseen + unheard" = aristocracy doesn't notice  
"both" = linked  
aristo. will fall or collapse

Intro

Hook

Thesis: subject + direction  
          humans as animals      revolution is beginning

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Thesis = subject + direction

fountain motif shows that the  
revolution is beginning

Intro:

Thesis: Motif fountain + theme revolution

Body:

Paragraph One:

Topic sentence: motif (in specific context) fountain in village  
+ theme (more specific, perhaps in its early stage) represents the revolutionaries

Evidence: Context On the night of Evremond's murder  
+ speaker the + quote "fountain in the village flowed unseen and unheard" (51).

Explanation: Literal (re-state quote's contents in your words) In the village, all of the people are asleep. No one is at the fountain.

figurative (go through the language of the quote to explain what it means symbolically)

The village fountain's water "flows," suggesting that, like the water, the revolutionaries have strength. That the flow is "unseen and unheard."

connection to direction: (explain how it illustrates the theme in your thesis)

The aristocrats don't realize that their own fate will be altered by ...

Paragraph Two:

Topic sentence: motif (in specific context) fountain in chateau  
+ theme (more specific; begin to show change) the target of the revolutionaries: aristocracy

Evidence: Context \_\_\_\_\_  
+ speaker \_\_\_\_\_ + quote " \_\_\_\_\_ " ( ).

Explanation: Literal (re-state quote's contents in your words) \_\_\_\_\_

figurative (go through the language of the quote to explain what it means symbolically)

connection to direction: (explain how it illustrates the theme in your thesis)

X

**Paragraph Three:**

Topic sentence: motif (in specific context) \_\_\_\_\_  
+ theme (more specific, now in its final stage) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Evidence: Context \_\_\_\_\_  
+ speaker \_\_\_\_\_ + quote " \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ " ( ).

Explanation: Literal (re-state quote's contents in your words) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

figurative (go through the language of the quote to explain what it means symbolically)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

connection to direction (explain how it illustrates the theme in your thesis)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Conclusion:**

Re-state thesis: \_\_\_\_\_

Re-state hook: \_\_\_\_\_