1. At least 1100 words.

**2.** MLA format

**Documented Essay Assignment and Topic**

We will all use the same topic, a simple one that is focused on explaining Magical Realism, what it is, where it came from, and some of its practitioners.  I suggest that you start with simple research about what Magical Realism is, how it came about, the great authors of Magical Realism, and finally how it manifests itself today, that is to say, in what genres.

As you prepare this essay please beware that you must include and quote three to five outside sources, use the MLA format, and in the process of the paper explain what magical realism is, how it developed, some of the great authors and works, and its international scope today. (all of which are quoted in the body of the paper at least once consistent with the MLA style. The paper uses parenthetical references and must have a Works Cited, which, unlike the annotated bibliography, contains the reference but not the annotations.)

We are doing the same topic for a variety of reasons, the first being, I do not want something purchased from a cheating site like Course Hero. When our software reveals that you have done that, you are no longer a member of this class. You will receive an unconditional and final F in the class, no discussion, no appeal.

Why don't you start with the article "What Is Magical Realism, Really," a very good place to start, and you can certainly use the article as one of your three--or five sources if you use that many.

I will give you an alternative topic, directly related to the paper we did for characterization, but this one requiring the three to five sources and works cited. Please read about that option below if you are interested. I will warn you in advance that the paper will be somewhat more challenging in that your research will be a great deal more focused. You make your own choice.

Second Possible Topic for the Documented Research Essay

If you do not like the first topic, you can do this one:

(this is the title you must use and support):

The Characterization of the Misfit in Flannery O'Connor's "A Good Man Is Hard to Find"

In this essay, do what you did with the Dee essay: tell how, in this case the Misfit, is characterized by WHAT HE SAYS (and you must include an analysis of a variety of the very revealing things he says, to include his apology for not having on a shirt, his apology for what Bailey says to his mother, his response to the grandmother's question--"You wouldn't shoot a lady would you?" and more. Another critical and revealing statement is "Jesus threw everything off balance," and perhaps the final one you must address: "She would of been a good woman . . ."

WHAT HE DOES, and of course there is less here--killing his father is NOT one since he did not kill his after--but he certainly does some terrible things during the course of the story.

and what others say about him--be careful; you can include what his dad said and what the prison psychiatrist said but you have to figure out what both reallysaid because the Misfit does not get it right.

Now you do this very carefully and thoroughly but you MUST ADD a minimum of three OUTSIDE SOURCES that you quote at least once each in your essay. These would be articles on the Misfit, the story, or something to do with what you are doing in the essay. Quote each one a minimum one time each and include a Works Cited page with the sources you use, in alphabetical order and MLA format.

The most important part of the paper will be the Conclusion--where you give a summary of what the different aspects of his characterization show the reader and then how we should finally take the Misfit based on O'Connor's careful and subtle characterization.

Before submitting you might use this checklist:

MLA format top to bottom:

Double space only

12 TNR Font only

paragraphs indented

every page numbered

one inch margins all the way around, or on all four sides

an attached Works Cited page

minimum three sources, but more acceptable

every source listed on the works cited (minimum 3) are quoted a minimum of one time each in the paper

use of parenthetical references with the period outside the reference only like this (        ).

content of the parenthetical references and the reference page consistent with MLA format

works cited in alphabetical order, double space, with the first line of every reference ON the left margin but other lines indented once