

45/45
Haley Farrell

Studt

English III, 2nd hour

9-7-13

Thesis Statement- The literary movement known as contemporary significantly impacted the time period of 1995-present.

MLA Citation- "What Is Contemporary Literature?" *WiseGEEK*. Conjecture Corporation, n.d. Web. 07 Sept. 2013. <<http://www.wisegeek.org/what-is-contemporary-literature.htm>>.

(Characteristics of topic)

- Contemporary literature is a vast group of written works produced from a certain time in history until the present day.
 - Contemporary literature not only defines a certain time period, but it also describes a style and quality of writing.
 - Most people agree that contemporary writing began in the 1960s. But some people say that it started at the end of world war II and then continues into the present day
 - Much of contemporary literature comes from Western authors; but can apply to written works from anywhere in the world.
 - Globalization opened the door to include contemporary works written by many people in the Middle East, Africa, and Asia.
 - The contemporary period include reality-based storied with strong characters and a believable story.
 - Settings usually keep to the current of modern era, so futuristic and science fiction novels are rarely included.
 - Most writing in contemporary literature features stories that are more character driven than plot driven.
 - Contemporary literature features a somewhat modern narrative, but also contains a harsher reality.
 - Written works tent to be influenced by the lifestyle that followed WWII.
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MLA Citation- "The American Novel." PBS. PBS, Mar. 2007. Web. 07 Sept. 2013.
<<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/americannovel/timeline/index.html>>.

(Major authors/writing)

- Infinite Jest- David Foster Wallace, 1996
 - The book takes place in a future version of North America
 - Touches on substance addiction recovery programs, depression, child abuse, family relationships, advertising, popular entertainment, film theory, Quebec separatism, and tennis
 - Wallace was 33 when the novel was published
- Underworld- Don DeLillo, 1997
 - The beginning of the book was set during a baseball game where the Giants beat the Dodgers to get the pennant in 1951
 - This is where J. Edgar Hoover learns of the Soviet Union's second detonation of a nuclear bomb. When, at the same time Bobby Thomson hits Branca's pitch into the hand of Cotter, also referred to as "the shot heard around the world"

(Major political influences-government, politics)

- President Clinton was impeached (1998)
 - He was impeached on two charges, one of perjury and one of obstruction of justice on December 19, 1998
- 9/11 terrorist attacks
 - Terrorist took over two airplanes and flew them into two skyscrapers at the world trade center
 - the skyscrapers caught on fire and collapsed, killing nearly 3,000 people
- Iraq war (2003)
 - The war began because the US and the United Kingdom claimed that Iraq's possession of weapons of mass destruction proposed a threat to us and others.

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MLA Citation- "HIStory: Past, Present and Future, Book I." *Wikipedia*. Wikimedia Foundation, 09 July 2013. Web. 07 Sept. 2013.

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HiStory:_Past,_Present_and_Future,_Book_I>.

(Art, music and entertainment)

- *Past, Present and Future, Book I* was the ninth studio album by Michael Jackson.
 - It was released on July 16, 1995 by Epic Records.
 - It was Jackson's first album on his own label.
 - The majority of the songs on the album were written and produced by Michael Jackson.
 - the album was generally well received by music critics and was also commercially successful, debuting and was number one in many countries, including the U.S, Canada, Australia, France and the United Kingdom.
- Music festival in Australia
 - Australia is known worldwide for its first-class music festivals and composers.
 - There are many different music festivals
 - Castle Grafenegg Music Festival
 - Innsbruck Summer Festival
 - Styriarte
 - Salzburg Festival
 - Summer Festival at Lake Constance
 - Tyrolean Festival Erl
 - Schubertiade Schwarzenberg
 - Vienna Festival Weeks
 - Operafestival St. Margarethen
 - Morbisch Festival on the Lake
 - Haydn Festival
 - The Linz Klangwolke (Cloud of Sound)
 - Plus many more

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MLA Citation- HEUSSNER, KI MAE. "The Top 10 Innovations of the Decade." *ABC News*. ABC News Network, 1 Dec. 2009. Web. 07 Sept. 2013.

<<http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/AheadoftheCurve/top-10-innovations-decade/story?id=9204931>>.

(Major innovations)

- **GPS Goes Mainstream- May 2000**
 - Originally developed by the Department of Defense to aid the military
 - it is a satellite-based system that gives you the location to whatever place you put into the GPS
- **Toyota Introduces the U.S. to the Prius, Grows Market for Hybrid Car- July 2000**
 - Started in July 2000 when they introduced the hybrid Prius to the U.S.
- **AT&T Introduces Text Messaging to the U.S.- October 2000**
 - AT&T was the first company to offer instant text messaging for cell phones
 - in June 2000, cell phone carriers reported that users sent 12.2 million text messages monthly
 - in June 2009, that figure jumped to 135.2 billion messages per month
- **The launch of Wikipedia sparks the rise of user-generated content- January 15, 2001**
 - Wikipedia came online and quickly became website that everyone went to
 - in February 2005, YouTube was made and rapidly became a pop culture mainstay, turning nobodies, such as British singer Susan Boyle, lonelygirl15 and Obama Girl, into viral sensations.
- **Napster's Demise Leads to Dawning of File-Sharing- July 2001**
 - as a result of record companies suing the online song-swapping service (Napster), Napster's collapse "opened the file-sharing floodgates. Its demise sparked a wave of innovations that forever changed how we obtain and experience music and video."
- **Friendster Kicks Off the Social Networking Revolution- March 2003**
 - Friendster is a social network just like Facebook, MySpace or Twitter.
 - when it was made, it was named one of the 50 coolest web sites of the year until the other sites were made. Since then, it has mostly been forgotten about.
- **Human Genome Project Completed- April 2003**

-scientists announced that they had finished the human genome project two years ahead of schedule.

-the human genome project was a 13-year international project set out to identify the 20,000 to 25,000 genes in human DNA.

-The project had helped us know more about human migration, common diseases, new energy sources and many other scientific fields.

- Nintendo Wii Launches, Revolutionizes Video Game Play

-when Nintendo came out with the Wii and Wii Sports, it changed the way video games were played.

-But it was more than just a game; it has also been used to teach school children music and help people lose weight.