Tier 1.0: "The Lottery" and "Charles"

Shirley Jackson Author Study (Foreshadowing and Irony Development)

Essay Prompt (10.25.23)

"The Lottery" is Shirley Jackson's classic story of horror in a small town. "Charles" is a lesser known comic piece of hers. Both stories, though very different in topics and genres, are very similar in that they have shocking, ironic twists at the end of the story due to her intentionally misdirecting the reader, yet Jackson also gives quite a bit of foreshadowing throughout the stories to point at the truth the whole time.

In a multi-paragraph essay, examine how Jackson both foreshadows the truth of her story endings and how she also creates the ironic endings through her intentional misdirection of the reader.

You will write two body paragraphs, one for "The Lottery" and one for "Charles," and each paragraph will begin and end with an effective topic sentence. Each paragraph will also contain some necessary summary as well as quotes and correct citations from each of the appropriate texts in order to prove that the foreshadowing and/or misdirection actually exists. The bulk of each paragraph will be comprised of your explanation of why/how that examples help either to foreshadow the truth or to create irony through misdirecting the reader.

Additionally, you'll write an introduction and conclusion paragraph, each of which must include an effective thesis statement.

Your essay must be double spaced, use standard font (Times New Roman or Ariel) and size (11 or 12 point), avoid first person, and your paragraphs must be correctly formatted.

Before you write the essay, but after you read each story, you'll answer analytical questions about the story. Once those are complete and show understanding of the stories, you'll then complete three pre-writing worksheets to help you build each of your paragraphs for the essay.

Introduction
Structure   STR _____
- Begins on effective hook, and smoothly transitions to thesis (5 pts)
- Begins with a hook and transitions to thesis (4 pts)
- Major concerns with intro structure (3 pts)

Thesis   THS _____
- Present effective thesis (5 pts)
- Present but thesis has minor flaws (4 pts)
- Present but thesis has major flaws (3 pts)

Body Paragraph I
Topic sentence   T.S. _____
- Effective (3 pts)
- Minor issues/concerns (2 pts)
- Major issues/ineffective focus (1pt)

Support   SPT _____
- Thorough; good use of quotes; well explained (12 pts)
- Ample; adequate explanation (10 pts)
- Some gaps in support/explanation; unclear relationship b/w support and t.s. (8 pts)
- Very underdeveloped; not enough or inadequate quotes; no explanation (7 pts)
- Incomplete or off topic (6 pts)

Restatement of Topic Sentence   T.S.R. _____
- Effective (3 pts)
- Minor issues/concerns (2 pts)
- Major issues/ineffective focus (1pt)

Body Paragraph II
Topic sentence   T.S. _____
- Effective (3 pts)
- Minor issues/concerns (2 pts)
- Major issues/ineffective focus (1pt)

Support   SPT _____
- Thorough; good use of quotes; well explained (12 pts)
- Ample; adequate explanation (10 pts)
- Some gaps in support/explanation; unclear relationship b/w support and t.s. (8 pts)
- Very underdeveloped; not enough or inadequate quotes; no explanation (7 pts)
- Incomplete or off topic (6 pts)

Restatement of Topic Sentence   T.S.R. _____
- Effective (3 pts)
- Minor issues/concerns (2 pts)
- Major issues/ineffective focus (1pt)

Conclusion
Structure   STR _____
- Begins on thesis, and smoothly transitions to effective clincher (5 pts)
- Begins with a thesis and transitions to clincher (4 pts)
- Major concerns with conclusion structure (3 pts)

Thesis   THS _____
- Present effective thesis (5 pts)
- Present but thesis has minor flaws (4 pts)
- Present but thesis has major flaws (3 pts)

General
Citations   CIT _____
- All quotes cited and handled correctly (5 pts)
- Minor errors (4 pts)
- Major errors (3 pts)

Formality   FML _____
- No first person used in essay (4 pts)
- One or two instances of first person used (3 pts)
- Three or four instances of first person used (2 pt)
- Five or more instances of first person (1 pt)

Format   FMT _____
- Font, font size, margins and paragraphing all correct (5 pts)
- Minor issue in font, font size, margins and paragraphing (3 pts)
- Major issues in font size, margins and paragraphing (1 pt)

TTL _____/70