English 3281

AP Challenge Essay #1 - Short Stories

Suggested time: 40 minutes

Read the following passage carefully. Then write an essay in which you develop a position on the theme about the nature of evil. Use references from the excerpt below and from at least two (2) of the short stories studied in this unit:

"The Lottery" by Shirley Jackson
"The Fly" by Katherine Mansfield
"First Confession" by Frank O'Connor
"Story of an Hour" by Kate Chopin
"The Cask of Amontillado" by Edgar Allan Poe

"One evening an old Cherokee Indian told his grandson about a battle that goes on inside people. He said, 'My son, the battle is between two 'wolves' inside us all. One is Evil. It is anger, envy, jealousy, sorrow, regret, greed, arrogance, self-pity, guilt, resentment, inferiority, lies, false pride, superiority, and ego.

The other is good. It is joy, peace, love, hope, serenity, humility, kindness, benevolence, empathy, generosity, truth, compassion and faith.'

The grandson thought about it for a minute and then asked his grandfather: 'Which wolf wins?'

The old Cherokee simply replied, 'The one you feed.' "

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