**Second Semester Independent Novel Assignment**

**Instructions: Write 8 claim paragraphs dealing with your Independent Novel**

1. Divide your independent novel into four sections. For example, if the book is 320 pages long, each section would be 80 pages long.
2. For each section, now write two claim paragraphs: one focusing on rhetorical strategies, the other focusing on theme.
3. For each section identify *and* describe the effect of at least one rhetorical strategy (an appeal, tone, style device or structural device) and make a claim. Make sure you cite appropriate textual evidence.

For example,

**Mark Twain wickedly satirizes prejudicial thinking in the first 80 pages of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*.**

This is a good topic sentence because it identifies Twain’s tone (satiric). Because tone is an umbrella strategy (meaning it pairs nicely with other rhetorical strategies), consider using textual support (quotes from the book) that not only highlight the satire, yet also showcase other writing skills. Here I will show how satire works well with allusion and ultimately irony:

For example,

**Twain actually mocks racial prejudice by calling the Miss Watson a “good, Christian woman” when we know she owns slaves. The *satiric* *tone* is well supported by the common *allusion* Twain makes to her religion. The reader knows Miss Watson owns Jim. Twain’s audience would also have their own ideas about what it means to be a “good Christian.” (Twain 43) Once the audience realizes the incongruence in being “good” and owning slaves, they understand that Twain is being *ironic* when he asserts, through Huck, that Miss Watson is a good person.**

Flesh this out further with other examples from the text OR through your own GOPHERS/ analysis.

1. For each section argue a claim about a possible theme present in the section of reading, citing appropriate textual evidence.

For example,

**Mark Twain clearly believed the problem of racial prejudice in the post-Civil War South needed to be scrutinized. In the first 80 pages of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Twain writes,***

Find appropriate quotes that proves your claim, backed by lengthy analysis

1. This is DUE on April 15. Four sections times two paragraphs = 8 Paragraphs.