Panel Discussion

For this assignment, you will be working in groups of four to prepare for a panel discussion about one reading of the short stories.

You will be assigned a short story from the list.

As a group you will read and familiarize yourself with the story. I strongly suggest that you go through the same process with this story as you did to prepare your web page. With the exception of the annotated bibliography, any of the topics from the previous assignment is fair game.

The questions will be about *reading* the story. You will not be informed in advance of the questions. Your group will respond to questions from the moderator in the form of DISCUSSION, using and demonstrating your academic conversation skills. This assignment is NOT a simple Q and A.

Each group member will be expected to demonstrate the 5 key skills of academic conversation: elaborating and clarifying, supporting ideas with examples, building on or challenging someone else’s idea, paraphrasing , and synthesizing.

Four *sample* questions:

* Summarize the development of the main character.
* What connections did you use to help you understand the story, and why were they helpful?
* Did the ending make sense?
* What is the moral position of the main character and which reading strategy did you use to determine this? How was the reading strategy helpful?

You will have two weeks to prepare.

# Part 2:

When you present your panel, the entire presentation will be filmed using two cameras. Your next task is to edit your 60 minutes (2x30 min) of film into an professional-looking 8 minute presentation that identifies and synthesizes the key points made during your panel discussion. This will be posted on the website for the story you are discussed.

Note: although you are free to use whatever editing software you like, iMovie on the iPad will be available for student use for this project.

As a listener, you will be expected to do peer assessment for two groups. You will also be invited to ask an intelligent discussion question of the panel.

Based on the two peer assessments and the performance of your own group, you will write a reflection answering this question:

*How can grade 9s improve their academic conversations? And how does doing so help us with our reading, writing and understanding of what we read?*

# Evaluation

Discussion – A, C  
Edited film of discussion – B   
Reflection - A