Short Stories SF Essay

Compare or Contrast

In a point by point, comparison (or contrast) essay answer one of the following questions discussing at least two of the science fiction texts we have studied in this class:

Stories: *The Handler, Strange Wine, The Gernsback Continuum, Chicxulub, The War at Home, The Life of Anybody, They’re Made of meat, The Electric Ant,* (or any other I’ve forgotten)

Topics:

1. How are the protagonists of so much of modern science fiction willing to destroy themselves in order to get at Truth? Hint think of Socrates’ or Neo’s notion of truth. Compare or contrast two of the stories we have studied in class

2. How are SF authors obsessed with an examination of persona? How is the examination of persona in a SF (think Pete the Puppet thing in “The Handler”)a metaphor for how we use persona in our modern lives? Compare or contrast two of the stories we have studied in class.

4. The protagonists in much of Science Fiction come to the realization that reality is subjective. How do the authors of these stories illustrate the delicate nature of our personal realities? Compare or contrast two of the stories we have studied in class.

5. In science fiction, sometimes aliens, robots, cyborgs, and computers are more human than humans. These “liminal” beings often bridge humanity and something different. How is this phenomenon prevalent in two of the stories we studied in class.

6. Another topic of your choice consulting with Mr. Beckett of course.

The Nuts and bolts:

Include an Inspiration Document as an outline

Length: 750 - 1000 words (3-4 pages)

References: short stories

Quotations**:** at least three

Format: Title Page and Works Cited all following the MLA style flawlessly.

Due Date: March 20th, 2012