

Microtheme 2: Comparative Textual Analysis

Description:	2–3 pages, double spaced
Source:	Schuyler, <i>Black No More</i> and one other text we have read together
Total Points:	50
Due Date:	Tues 4/4

The Assignment

Compare how George S. Schuyler's *Black No More* and another text we have read this semester address a shared issue (a concern, question, or phenomenon). Support your analysis with close readings of two paragraph-length passages, one from each text.

Strategies

Begin by selecting an issue and another text to work with. You may use any other text that we have read this semester. Then select a couple of paragraph-length passages (think 3-6 sentences here) that are representative of this issue and that you will analyze with close readings.

As we've practiced, your close readings should begin by considering minute details (like grammar, syntax, word choice, figurative language, active vs. passive voice, sentence length and complexity) and should then move on to make a claim about how these details are significant. How does the passage's location affect its contribution to the story as a whole?

Conclude your microtheme by making a claim about how the two texts represent their issue. Do they end up making similar or different claims? What exactly are the similarities or differences?

Format

Paper formatting, citations, and works cited list follows MLA style: 12-point Times New Roman font; double-spaced; stapled; header on first page including your name, course, instructor name, date, and assignment title.

Criteria for Evaluation

1. Thoughtful close readings of textual evidence that move beyond what someone who quickly read the stories would say about it.
2. Specific citations of language from chosen paragraph.
3. Clearly explains how quotations support/demonstrate your claim.
4. Attentive to language and clarity: readable style with correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, and MLA citation.