**[Very Short Wording of Topic]: [More Wordy Rewording of Topic]**

**[Student Name]**

**[Teacher Name (with honorific)]**

**[Submission Date]**

**[Course Code]**

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Weighing in on **[something about either *The Odyssey*, or *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* or the classics]**, **[famous person]** said, “**awesome, very general quote that is about your overall topic, but which doesn’t simply do your conclusion for you. More about the importance of the topic than about a conclusion**.” (**name**) When examining the question of **Central Topic:** whether the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* takes elements from Homer’s epic poem *The Odyssey*, it makes sense to examine **Thing #1: if the dangerous creatures of *The Odyssey* turn up in the film in some form, Thing #2: if any names from *The Odyssey* are seen in *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*, Thing #3: if events that take place in *The Odyssey* and overall story structure seem to be an influence on that of the film** and **Thing #4: if main characters from the film seem to be based on ones from *The Odyssey***.

In reaching an informed position as to **Central Topic:** whether the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* draws inspiration from Homer’s epic poem *The Odyssey*, to begin with it is important to consider **Thing #1:** if the dangerous creatures of *The Odyssey* turn up in the film in some form. **[consider Thing #1 without concluding yet. Pull in three specific examples from the movie or poem which relate to Thing #1. Quote from both *The Odyssey* and *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* Start with explaining the form each of these elements takes in *The Odyssey*, and only then explain what form they take in *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* Speculate on why the Coen brothers likely made the changes to these elements that they did. Was it to fit them into the 20th century? To be funny?]** In light of the dangerous creatures common to both, it seems clear that the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* takes elements from Homer’s *The Odyssey*.

When examining the question of **Central Topic:** whether the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* takes elements from Homer’s epic poem *The Odyssey*, it is also important to consider **Thing #2:** if any names from *The Odyssey* are seen in *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*. **[consider Thing #2 without concluding yet. Pull in three specific examples from the poem or movie which relate to Thing #2. Quote from both *The Odyssey* and *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* (Coen) Start with explaining the form each of these elements takes in *The Odyssey*, and only then explain what form they take in *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* Speculate on why the Coen brothers likely made the changes to these elements that they did. Was it to fit them into the 20th century? To be funny?]** An examination of **Thing #2:** if any names from *The Odyssey* are seen in *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*seems to suggest that the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* may draw inspiration from Homer’s *The Odyssey*.

Equally vital in determining **Central Topic:** if *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*draws inspiration from Homer’s epic poem *The Odyssey*, is **Thing #3:** if events that take place in *The Odyssey* and its overall story structure seem to be an influence on that of the film. **[consider Thing #3 without concluding yet. Pull in three specific examples from the poem or movie which relate to Thing #3. Quote from both *The Odyssey* and *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* Start with explaining the form each of these elements takes in *The Odyssey*, and only then explain what form they take in *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* Speculate on why the Coen brothers likely made the changes to these elements that they did. Was it to fit them into the 20th century? To be funny?]** An examination of **Thing #3:** events that take place in *The Odyssey* and overall story structurestrongly suggests that the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* uses elements from Homer’s *The Odyssey*.

Perhaps most vital to look at as to the issue of **Central Topic:** whether the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* draws inspiration from Homer’s epic poem *The Odyssey* is determining **Thing #4:** if main characters from the film seem to be based on ones from *The Odyssey*. **[consider Thing #4 without concluding yet. Pull in three specific examples from the poem or movie which relate to Thing #4. Quote from both *The Odyssey* and *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* Start with explaining the form each of these elements takes in *The Odyssey*, and only then explain what form they take in *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* Speculate on why the Coen brothers likely made the changes to these elements that they did. Was it to fit them into the 20th century? To be funny?]** This provides further evidence that the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* draws inspiration from Homer’s *The Odyssey.*

Now, it could of course be argued that *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* contains many elements that have nothing whatsoever to do with *The Odyssey*. For example **[give a series of three examples of characters and events that are drawn from 20th Century history instead, or which are made up for the movie and are neither from *The Odyssey*, nor are twists on elements in The Odyssey.] Quote from both *The Odyssey* and *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*** A serious look at **Thing #1**, **Thing #2**, **Thing #3** and **Thing #4** will, however, lead one to conclude that **Central Topic:** the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* draws inspiration from Homer’s *The Odyssey.*

Given that **Central Topic:** the film *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* clearly uses adapted elements from Homer’s epic poem *The Odyssey,* **[explain exactly why this matters or is good or interesting, and where one should ‘go’ with it. Extend your thinking, now that you have reached your conclusion. What might you decide next, as a result of concluding it?]** As **[name of famous person not yet mentioned]** famously said, **[a quote that has something to do with your central topic, and which fits in well with this paragraph.]** (**name**)

**Works Cited**

**[A list of all of the sources you used, in MLA style. Works Cited paragraphs indent all but the first lines, oddly. Cite the sources of your opening and closing quotes.]**

Coen, Joel, director. *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* Touchstone Pictures, 2000.

Homer, and Robert Fagles (translation). *The Odyssey*. Penguin, 2001.