<p align="center">**Character Analysis:** *We Have Always Lived in the Castle*</p>

A Character Analysis involves evaluating a character's traits and correlating those traits the conflicts he/she experiences. Traits include the character's role in the plot, his/her motivations and intentions, personality flaws, and his/her growth and development, or lack thereof, throughout the book. Consider how the character's traits affect others in the story. Consider how one or two modifications in the character's personality or decision-making could've shifted the entire narrative. There are many areas to explore, so go where you feel led. However, avoid mentioning inconsequential details that carry no weight in the story. **Focus on what is crucial and unique to the character.**

You may choose any character to analyze, but selecting a flat, static character will limit you writing-wise. Instead, select a main character who changes throughout the story (dynamic) and has complex or contradictory traits (round). You may also choose a few secondary characters to analyze as a group or in a compare/contrast format.

If you have a specific idea you want to float by me, feel free.

Format

The introduction must include a hook, a thesis statement, and a few sentences in between the two. Be sure to mention the author's name in addition to the book title. Remember, this is a high school course. Leave simple sentences behind and instead construct complex, compound sentences. <u>Never begin a paper with, "This paper is about…" or "This paper will explore…"</u>

Body paragraphs should reflect the primary subjects mentioned in the thesis statement. Give examples to defend your statements and show understanding. You may quote directly from the book, paraphrase, or summarize, but whatever you do - give credit where it's due.

If you feel the author's personal details are pertinent to the character you've chosen, make correlations accordingly.

The conclusion reiterates your main points and leaves a final impression. Do not repeat yourself; rather, discover new ways to express your ideas without introducing new ideas. This is often the most challenging part of a paper.

Word count: Approximately 1,200

Format: Follow MLA guidelines. Times New Roman, 12 point, double-spaced, separate Works Cited page that includes the novel and any additional works you use to support your claims. (See Purdue Online Writing Lab (Owl) for help if you don't own a handbook.)

Heading in top left-hand corner:
Name
Class
Assignment
Date

Dates to Remember:
Group Critique of Outlines *in class* on **Thursday, September 13**
Rough Draft with Works Cited due *via email* no later than **Tuesday, September 18**
Final Character Analysis due in class on **Thursday, September 27**