Reduction Assignment

Lord of the Flies

It may help to think of a reduction as literary analysis that is represented graphically (with pictures) instead of in paragraphs. To create a reduction, focus on gathering the most specific, essential elements of plot, theme, characters and symbols. Then, your job is to create a format that best shows the connections among these elements in the work. Be sure your work fits on one side of one piece of 8 ½ x 11 piece of paper. (Alright, you may use 11 ½ x 14 inch paper, but that’s as big as it can get.)

Use the brainstorming have created in class, and *be sure you are clear* about the answers to the following questions before you try to create your reduction:

* Who are the main characters, and how are they connected in the work?
* What are the main elements of plot? What is going on beneath the surface of the events?
* What are the main internal and external conflicts within and between characters?
* What are the major symbols, and how did they connect with the characters and the themes?
* How are the themes revealed through the characters, symbols and plot, in particular?

Hints for success:

* Gather all of your information before trying to create your reduction. You have to be willing to work with the novel until you see not only the facts, but the connections among them.
* To create the reduction, think about an appropriate “setting” for your information.
* You will most likely NOT be able to create a reduction in your first attempt.
* The work is in the planning and the willingness to go through trial and error; once you understand the novel and hit upon an idea for your reduction, you’re more than halfway there!
* Your reduction *must make sense to someone else* who has read the novel.

Assessment

The most important information from each of the \_\_\_\_\_\_ /15

required elements is presented in a graphic format.

The reduction shows a high level of personal investment \_\_\_\_\_\_ /10

because the information is laid out in a creative way.

The reduction makes sense to someone who has read the novel. \_\_\_\_\_\_ / 10

The reduction shows a thorough, accurate understanding

of the novel and the connections among the elements of fiction. \_\_\_\_\_\_ / 15

Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_ / 50