***Editorial Assignment:***

***The Lovely Bones/Tuesdays with Morrie***

***Novel Studies***

**Assignment:**

In a well written, convincing **editorial**, explain why either *The Lovely* *Bones* **or** *Tuesdays with Morrie* is a more effective novel in dealing with the subject of Death. Be sure to include adequate text support and solid reasons to support your opinion.

**Editorial Writing Tips**

***The following steps should help you focus on developing a convincing editorial piece.***

**Step One: Establish Focus**

A) Hook the Reader

* This can be direct or anecdotal

B) State the background and facts in the first and second paragraph, immediately following the hook.

C) Ask an editorial question in the second paragraph. (It could be a single sentence.)

* Yes/no/maybe should be the response. The question should be a viable one – not loaded or lame. (E.g. Are you frustrated with the amount of garbage left on our city’s sidewalks?)
* **Sometimes there is no question, but it is implied by the clearly stated position. (Meaning that you should always have an editorial question in your mind.)**

**Step 2: State your position – the answer to the editorial question**.

* One sentence; yes or no stance.
* This should be its own paragraph, immediately following the question.

**Step 3: Back up your position and convince your readers:**

* Before you discuss the arguments in support of your topic present an argument against the topic in a single paragraph, where you present the other side and then tear it apart.
* Present 3 Reasons in support of your position – organize from weak to strongest
* Use logic and emotional appeals
* Use specific transitions, clearly state each reason before explaining it- don’t cloak your argument in unnecessary language

**Step 4: Summarize your position in one sentence, and briefly restate three reasons**.

**Step 5: Make a conclusion based on the explanations included in the editorial and/or make a call to action.**

* Call legislator, write a letter, make an appointment with the principal.

***Remember: Your editorial can use sarcasm, humour or satire to convince your reader of your opinion. An editorial should be interesting to read and engage your reader from start to finish.***

**Editorial Rubric Notes**

**Content:** Quantity of ideas here refers to between 2-3 different arguments to support your point, where at least two of them must be different from each other. As well, it is expected that students try to relate ideas to a current social/political issue as is the nature of editorial writing.

**Organization**: Paragraphs 1 and 5 should provide a general INTRO and CONCLUSION to your topic; Paragraphs 2-4 will constitute the BODY.

You may organize your BODY with one argument for each paragraph (similar to an essay)

Conversely, you may organize according to the formal structure of an Editorial which would look like this:

**Body Paragraph 1:** Straw Man Fallacy

(Sets up inferior version of opposing argument, then crushes it without mercy).

**Body Paragraph 2**: Outlines key details of their own argument.

**Body Paragraph 3**: Offers possible solutions to the issues inherent to the topic.

**Style**: Editorial style techniques for persuasion include: strongly voiced personal opinion; effective use of rhetorical questions; use of idioms and sarcasm to make a point; emotional ejaculations including both personal expressions of emotion (“I am furious that…”) and the use of emotional punctuation like exclamation marks.

**Editorial Marking Rubric to follow.**