Final Assignment: English 12 Short Story Study Guide

Pick a story that we haven’t covered in class and create a study guide that can be used by senior high or first year college students to get a deeper understanding of the story. The study should provide insight that your average student will not be able to attain after one reading. There are many short stories online or in books available in-class.

Plot Summary: Should include protagonist and antagonist, conflict, setting, rising action, resolution.

Analysis:

1. Two Characters
2. What is the character’s conflict? Is it emotional, intellectual, physical, moral or social?
3. What are they trying to achieve? What is their motivation?
4. What are their positive character traits? Problematic character traits?
5. Provide quotes that reveal character traits directly or indirectly.
6. Do the characters change in any way?
7. In what ways does setting contribute to the effectiveness/meaning/mood of the story?
8. What is the point of view of the story? How does point of view affect our understanding of the story?
9. What is the theme of the story? Write out a clear theme statement. Along with theme statement, explain what aspects make the story relevant today.
10. Identify 5 significant quotations and explain what each contributes to the deeper meaning of the story.
11. Identify some symbolism and imagery and explain how it contributes to the meaning of the story.
12. Develop 7 questions that will lead a student to a better understanding of the story.

**Include a citations page identifying all the sources you used to help you understand the story.**