Assignment: Interpreting Elements of Fiction

A. Plot (Read the [first chapter of *Ender's Game*](#) by Orson Scott Card)

* This book, which started out as a short story and has won many prestigious awards, is considered by many one of the top fiction picks for teens. The book is a military science fiction tale set in Earth's future featuring young recruits that are trained in increasingly difficult war games.

Notes on Plot (from the video in the book Assignment 5.2: Interpreting Elements of Fiction on the main page of the course). Use point form.

1. What is the narrative hook that the author uses at the beginning to interest the reader in the story?

2. What happens at the literal level?

3. Describe an internal and external conflict that occurs in this chapter.

4. Write down two questions that you have about the plot after reading the first chapter.

B. Theme (Watch the *Gattaca* movie trailer)
Notes on Theme: (from the video in the course): Use point form.

* "When Gattaca was released in 1997, **Dolly, the most highly publicized sheep in history** and the first mammal to be cloned from an adult cell, was one year old. The human genome project, hailed as the biological equivalent of putting an astronaut on the moon, was progressing at an accelerating pace towards its goal of mapping and sequencing the entire human genome. These developments triggered widespread ethical debates about genetic determinism." (source).

Gattaca Movie Trailer www.youtube.com/embed/PC6ZA1dFkVk

5. Consider both the last tagline and other scenes from the movie and write a short statement about what you think the theme of the movie is with a detailed explanation.

C. Characters (Read Ray Bradbury's *All Summer in a Day*)
Notes on Characters (from the video): Use point form.

6. Provide two examples of direct characterization and two examples of indirect characterization.

D. Setting (Use Ray Bradbury's *All Summer in a Day*)
Notes on Setting (from the video): Use point form.

7. What is the setting (location and time)?

8. Where did the author get his inspiration for the setting?

E. Point of View, Symbols (Use Ray Bradbury's *All Summer in a Day*)
Notes on Point of View (from the tutorial): Use point form.

Notes on Symbols (from the video): Use point form.

9. What is the point of view (omniscient, limited omniscient, first person, third-person)? How do you know?

10. How does the point of view affect the reader's understanding of the events or theme?

11. What symbols does the story use, including the title?