

Final Examination of Literary Appreciation

Instruction:

Read carefully the following two short stories:

1 “The Necklace” by Guy de Maupassant

-2. “The Gift of the Magi” by O. Henry

Then, write a comparative essay (500–700 words) that critically analyzes the two stories.

Your essay should:

1. Discuss at least three literary aspects where the stories can be compared (e.g., theme, character development, narrative style, use of irony, or moral message).
2. Provide specific examples or quotations from both stories to support your comparison.
3. Highlight both similarities and differences in how each author conveys meaning.
4. Conclude with your own critical reflection on which story you find more impactful and why.

Scoring Rubric

Criteria	Weight
Depth of analysis and critical comparison	40%
Use of appropriate textual evidence	25%
Organization and coherence of essay	20%
Language accuracy and academic style	15%