Humanities 1B, Honors Prof. C. Rostankowski

Spring, 2013

Critical Thinking Essay

In this essay, your task will be to make use of the new information on fallacies you will have learned, and to apply it to some of your readings. It is important to be able to recognize fallacies, since if one does not recognize them, one might be influenced by erroneous reasoning – leading to errors in thinking, and living.

For your assignment, select a passage from **one** of the following readings:

 1. *One-Thousand-and-One Arabian Nights*

 *2. Beowulf*

 *3. Henry IV: Summoning German Bishops to the Diet of Worms* (one of the lecture 9 readings)

**The passage you select must contain at least one passage of fallacious reasoning.**

Please cite the passage you have found (see your *Little Seagull Handbook* for correct MLA citation form to be used in the paper), and briefly recount the passage. Then, explain why the passage you chose is an example of fallacious reasoning, and explain further which fallacy/ies it exhibits. Be sure to make good use of your *Being Logical* text, especially pages 101-129, and cite your sources appropriately. In conclusion, address the significance of fallacious reasoning in the context of its occurrence – what does it mean when the message sent by someone is flawed in its reasoning? Please explain thoughtfully and with detail.

If you have any questions, please feel free to come to my office; I will be happy to help.

Length: 3-4 pages

Due: 26 February - Be sure to turn in both an electronic copy to Turnitin.com, and a hard copy to me. Thanks!)