

Into the Wild: Group Create a Metaphor Project

Due Wednesday, May 4



In the book we are reading, *Into the Wild*, Jon Krakauer admits that Chris McCandless was rash, but he insists he "wasn't a nutcase, he wasn't a sociopath, he wasn't an outcast. McCandless was something else -- although precisely what is hard to say. A pilgrim, perhaps" (85).

Your question: What precisely was McCandless? Use one of Krakauer's terms or invent your own metaphor. Choose your metaphor carefully, and note passages as you read. Your answer to the question is your central claim. Support this claim with evidence from the text and explain how the language of the quote -- the connotations of individual words in the quotes you cite -- prove your claim to be valid.

With your group members, you will create a presentation for the class. Your presentation needs to include images and text and needs to systematically support your claim that McCandless was a(n)_____. Remember, you create the metaphor, but your support needs to be a combination of quotes (minimum of 4) and your group's explanation as to why those quotes support your claim about Chris.

Rubric (writing grade)

CATEGORY	5 Great	4 Good	2 Can do better	1 Not so good.
Metaphor	Insightful, creative, and fully supported at all times by the text.	Solid thinking that is supported by the text.	Your claim might not be supported well by the text.	Your claim is unclear or unsupported.
Argumentation	Your claims are clear, logically presented, and effective. You both support your claim and use knowledge of other arguments to enhance your own.	Most claims are clear and logically presented. You show some knowledge of opposing views or other possible arguments.	Your claims might not be clear or you might show little knowledge of counterarguments.	You don't really make a valid argument at all.
Visuals	Your presentation is clear and visually appealing. Visuals enhance your argument through careful and purposeful planning.	Your presentation is clear and appealing. Visuals never detract from your argument.	Your presentation might not be clear or appealing or your visuals might be random or might detract from your argument.	Your presentation leaves a great deal to be desired.
Grammar, Usage, Mechanics	Virtually no errors	A few very minor errors do not detract from the meaning.	Errors detract from argument.	Errors dominate presentation.
Total				