**Eng 12: Short Story Reading Unit – In Class Write**

As a summative assignment for our short story reading unit, we will be writing a brief literary analysis paragraph. Your paragraph must be at least 150 words, and you must support your answer with evidence from the text, which means you must use quotes. This will be due at the end of the class.

**Step 1: Choose one of the following short stories.**

* “Boys and Girls” by Alice Munro
* “The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson

**Step 2: Look at the questions for your chosen short story, and select one question to answer in paragraph form.**

“Boys and Girls” by Alice Munro

1. Using the narrator as evidence, how do the expectations of society affect our personal identity?
2. How is power shown in “Boys and Girls”?
3. To what extent are Flora and the narrator similar?
4. Discuss the role of gender in “Boys and Girls”.

“The Lottery” by Shirley Jackson

1. Except for the final five paragraphs, are there any indications of violence in the life of the village? What might the absence of presence of violence in other aspects of village life indicate, considering the story’s conclusion?
2. Do you agree with Mrs. Hutchinson – is the lottery unfair? How or how not? Her friends and neighbours point out that they all take the same risks in participating. Is this hypocritical of her?
3. Are there any clues in the story that might explain how the lottery first started? What might its purpose be? What passages give the reader clues about the origins of this ritual?

**Step 3: Write your paragraph.**

Although this is not an essay, think about what we have learned about writing essays over the course of the year. Make sure you have a clear topic/thesis statement. Support your thesis statement using quotes and paraphrasing, while also explaining how those quotes relate to your thesis. Avoid the use of I, contractions, slang, etc., and make sure you are using formal language. Give your paragraph a title. Use your time wisely, and try to give your paragraph a proofread.