**English 100W**

**Analysis of Perrault’s story “Cinderella”**

**1,000 words**

Please write a full explication of Charles Perrault’s story “Cinderella”. Read the story first for the details and the plot. Read it again and make notes on all of the following:

From whose point of view do we see the story? First person? Third?

Does the narrator ever address the reader?

Make a complete list of characters

Make a complete list of any objects

Make a complete list of any plants, animals

Note recurrent imagery: colors, sounds, smells, textures

Describe the setting(s).

Note any emotional resonances of the setting(s).

Are there dreams? Events that only take place in a character’s imagination?

Consider how syntax (sentence length and complexity) and diction (word choice) create the author’s style. Is the style formal? Informal? Conversational?

Are there “morals to the story”? Explicit or implied?

Once you have made notes on all of these aspects of the story, consider the following question:

What elements of this version of Cinderella surprised you? How does it differ from other version(s) you know?

What is the point of this story?

These notes are the raw material for your essay. Now you must formulate an interesting, detailed and argumentative thesis that seeks to show how the form of this story contributes to its meaning.

Please do not repeat what we discuss in class. Do not simply describe the story. You must come up with your own thesis and argue for it, using detailed evidence and quotations from the story.