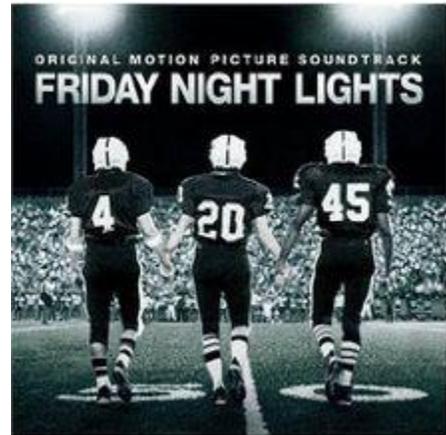


Dr. Jay Seller

Directions for your Constructive Response to *Friday Night Lights*

- After you have read each of the constructed response questions below, select one to answer. The constructed response verbiage is listed below to assist you in this process.
- Responses are graded on quality not quantity, looking for thinking in your writing, and reflection on the article above.
- Use the film *Friday Night Lights* to explore the characters and storyline in order to provide support for your answers and to properly address the questions.
- You may compose your response in a *Microsoft Word document*.
- Make sure to include your name and hour attached to your work.
- Email your assignment as an attachment or within the email to your instructor. Subject line: *Friday Night Lights Assignment*



Option One

Of the Odessa team preparing for the game against Midland Lee, Bissinger writes that “the perfection of their equipment...the solemn ritual that was attached to almost everything, made them seem like boys going off to fight a war for the benefit of someone else, unwitting sacrifices to a strange and powerful god.” (p 11) In what ways might they be viewed as “unwitting sacrifices”? How would you describe the “strange and powerful god” to whom they were being sacrificed?

Option Two

Bissinger notes that the tradition of Odessa’s Permian Panthers “was enshrined on the wall of the field house” (p 24) and also “in the community library, where the 235-page history that had been written about Permian football was more detailed than any of the histories about the town itself.” What conclusions concerning Odessa might be drawn from the fact that its high school football program is valued more highly than the town’s history?

Option Three

Of Boobie Miles, Bissinger writes, “He had the rawness, the abandon, the unbridled meanness.” And Bissinger makes much of the orneriness, fearlessness, and aggressiveness of many of Odessa’s football players, past and present—and of many of the town’s other citizens. What value do those attributes have for the football players and the community? What other personal qualities might be of equal or greater value?

Dr. Jay Seller

Key Verbs and Tasks used in Constructive Response

- Analyze - Examining carefully by looking at the different parts of the whole and figuring out how they are related to each other.
- Apply - Using what you have learned to demonstrate show, or relate something.
- Compare - Using examples to show how things are similar.
- Contrast - Using examples to show how things are different.
- Evaluate - Making a judgment backed up with support.
- Infer - Making an educated guess or hypothesizing... reading between the lines.
- Interpret - Explaining a possible meaning of a text
- Paraphrase - Putting the author's ideas into your own words
- Predict - Using information available to make an educated guess about future events
- Summarize - Presenting the author's main ideas in a shortened form
- Support - Using specific facts to "back up" your answer, utilize details and examples from the text.
- Synthesize - Combining several ideas and making something new