

<p>In some works of literature, a character who appears briefly, or does not appear at all, is a significant presence. Write an essay in which you show how such a character functions in <i>The Invisible Man</i>. You may wish to discuss how the character affects action, theme, or the development of other characters.</p>	<p>Novels and plays often include scenes of weddings, funerals, parties, and other social occasions. Such scenes may reveal the values of the characters and the society in which they live. Select one of these scenes from <i>Invisible Man</i> and in a focused essay, discuss the contribution the scene makes to the meaning of work as a whole.</p>	<p>Many plays and novels use contrasting places (for example, two countries, two cities or towns, two houses, or the land and the sea) to represent opposed forces or ideas central to the meaning of the work. Two such places are contrasted in <i>Invisible Man</i>. Write an essay explaining how the places differ, what each place represents, and how their contrast contributes to the meaning of the work.</p>
<p>A symbol is an object, action, or event that represents something or that creates a range of associations beyond itself. In literary works a symbol can express an idea, clarify meaning, or enlarge literal meaning. From <i>Invisible Man</i>, focus on one symbol and write an essay analyzing how that symbol functions in the work and what it reveals about the characters or themes of the work as a whole.</p>	<p>Draw a map of the landscape the characters in <i>The Invisible Man</i> inhabit. Label the locations on your map. Include relevant information <u>explicitly stated</u> in the novel. Where explicit locations are not given, how do you imagine the places relate geographically to one another?</p>	<p>Are there similarities in the way that the narrator is treated at the battle royal and in the way that Mr. Norton is treated in the Golden Day? What are the differences between the two situations?</p>
<p>What makes Ellison's narrator invisible? What is the relationship between his invisibility and other people's blindness—both involuntary and willful? Is the protagonist's invisibility due solely to his skin color? Is it only the novel's white characters who refuse to see him?</p>	<p>In retrospect, the reader often discovers that the first chapter of a novel introduces some of the major themes of the work. Write an essay about the first chapter of <i>Invisible Man</i> in which you explain how the first chapter functions to set forth major themes, introduce important characters and conflicts, establish the tone and mood of the book, etc.</p>	<p>Where in <i>*Invisible Man*</i> does Ellison—who was trained as a musician—use language to musical effect? (For example, compare the description of the college campus on pages 34-37 to Trueblood's confession on 51-68, to the chapel scene on 110-135, and Tod Clifton's funeral on 450-461.) What different sorts of language does Ellison employ in these and other passages? How does the "music" of these sections—their rhythm, assonance, and alliteration—heighten their meaning or play against it?</p>