

**In-Class Essay  
Pushkin & Gogol**

Please write a thoughtful, well-organized, text-based response to ONE of the following questions.

Be sure to

- think, consult your text, and sketch out an outline (feel free to show me your outline before you begin to write)
- support your points with direct evidence from the text(s)
- proofread for syntax and conventions  
AND...
- **Reread your essay at least twice before handing it in!**

**Options**

**#1.** Choose a single passage from *The Bronze Horseman* or “The Overcoat” that you feel is exemplary of a theme, trope, or idea that is present in both works. Explain that theme's (or trope's or idea's) importance. What role does it play in each text? Is there a larger question or idea that it points to?

**#2.** Your English teachers have always stressed the importance of sticking to your point. Clearly, Gogol did not have your English teacher. Discuss his use of digressions. What purpose do they serve? Are they effective?

**#3.** Discuss the way the city of St. Petersburg acts as a character in *The Bronze Horseman* and “The Overcoat.”

**Nuts & Bolts**

Your essay should be

- double spaced
- in 12 point font
- printed & stapled
- 2 – 5 pages long

If you are not able to finish it in the class time allotted, you may complete it for homework and hand it in at the next class.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Analysis</b>		
You have a clear, thoughtful thesis.		
Your thesis and analysis are fully developed.		
Your analysis is text-based. It is supported by specific examples and/or quotes.		
<b>Composition</b>		
Your essay is logically organized. It is easy to follow your reasoning.		
Your language is clear and direct.		
You adhere to the conventions of syntax, grammar, punctuation and spelling.		