Symbolic Characters in *Death of a Salesman* and *Fences*

Authors often use an object to represent something deeper, like the stockings represent Willy’s guilt or the fence represents Troy’s seclusion. Characters, however, can also be symbolic. Through their actions, past, dialogue, and death, characters become extensions of what the author tries to accomplish. They often become extremely critical in determining the theme, or central lesson, of a work.

Both Arthur Miller and August Wilson use extremely symbolic characters to provide commentary on the topic of the American dream. In a well-organized essay, provide an explanation of the theme of the American dream both works show as well as which characters symbolically support this. Be sure to use text evidence to help prove your claims.

Due Date: **Monday, September 11**

Length: 2-4 pages, double spaced, Times New Roman, size 12 font

-MLA title page needed

-Works cited with both plays’ entries

- Heading in upper left of the first page of the body of the paper:

John Smith

Mr. Reiter

Expository Writing

11 September 2017

- Name and page number in the upper right as a header (essay pages only, NOT title page)

Reiter 1

-Originality Report from [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com)

Since this is our first typed paper of the year, I need to remind you of the late work policy:

1. Turned in late the same day as the due date – 50% penalty

2. Paper not turned in at all on the due date – ZERO

3. Paper turned in a full day late – ZERO

Also remember that if you are absent on the due date, you need to get the paper to me somehow (email it to me, have a hard copy placed in my mailbox, etc. )