FEEDBACK TUTORIAL LETTER

2nd SEMESTER 2019

ASSIGNMENT 1

LITERARY PROSE
(LTP621S)
Dear students

Here follows a short feedback letter on your first assignment. Most students understood the questions well and gave appropriate answers. For question one on the character of Aziz most students gave comprehensive answers. Most answers did not contain enough information on Aziz's interaction with Fielding, Adela Quested and Mrs Moore. Many students failed to show how Aziz changed from a happy and slightly immature Indian doctor to an embittered anti-British Indian living in Mau.

Question two was about analyzing Miriam's character and showing how she adds to Paul's confusion. Most students described Miriam's character adequately BUT did not show how she adds to Paul's confusion and his inability to bond with any woman other than his mother.

NOW TO THE REAL PROBLEM!

In your first year as well as the first semester of your second year I spent considerable amounts of time, and paper, trying to show you what PLAGIARISM is. A simple way of understanding this term is simply "Anything you copy word for word, from any source (books, magazines and the internet/Google) WITHOUT acknowledging it in your text (essay) or/and in your reference list. Unfortunately many students have used the same source and then they copied whole paragraphs and sentences without acknowledging the source. (Plagiarism!!!)

To make matters worse, there are some misguided students who replaced words in the copied text with their own words which made the sentences hard to read and reduced them to rubbish!

I will show examples of this at the vacation school. I have made comprehensive comments on your scripts to illustrate this. I hope you learn from this and do not make these mistakes again.

Paraphrasing is when you put what you have read into YOUR OWN words. Most students did not understand this and they simply copied whole passages and then replaced some words in the sentences with their own words. The effect of this was that sentences were created which were ridiculous and hilarious! The words used were mostly out of context and this made whole paragraphs unreadable and that is why many students got poor marks!

I will discuss this fully in the vacation school.

When you paraphrase and the information does not come from your own brain, you still need to acknowledge the source of the information, both in the text and the reference list.

Good luck with your second assignment.

AB