**\*\*\*\*You can write this in paragraph form or in the format I’ve shown here.**

**Topic: Regret**

Option 1 TS: The literature of our course indicates that when regret comes, it’s usually too late to do anything about it.

Units:

Dark Romantics

* Cask of Amontillado – Fortunato regrets his actions only after he is walled-up alive
* Tell-Tale Heart – Main character regrets and confesses after committing murder and is headed to jail.

Modern American Short Fiction

* Snows of Kilimanjaro – Harry regrets the way he’s lived, loved, and written, but not until he’s on his deathbed
* To Build a Fire – The main character regrets not listening to the Old Timer from Sulfur Creek, but only after he’s lost all chances of survival

Crucible

* Proctor regrets his affair, but only after the damage has been done. His marriage is in shambles, and the town has been ruined. His regret does him no good.

Option 2 TS: Many pieces of literature in our course encourage the reader to avoid regret by acting now.

Units:

Foundations of a Nation

* Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God - Edwards implores his audience to avoid the regret of eternal damnation by accepting God’s grace
* Give me Liberty. . . – Henry persuades listeners to avoid the regret of waiting and inaction and instead to fight.
* Poor Richard’s Almanack – Franklin provides several pieces of advice intended the keep his audience from the regret of their mistakes

Transcendentalism

* Walden – Thoreau offers suggestions on how to live in a way in which you don’t come to the end of your life and discover that you have not lived.

Harlem Renaissance

* To Negro Writers – Hughes tells other Negro writers that there are certain things they “can and must do” to avoid the regret they will feel of wasting the opportunity to battle discrimination

Option 3 Thesis Statement: The literature from our course presents several different causes for regret.