

The characters' inability to forget what happened to them is an extremely strong anti-war commentary because it shows what war does this horrible, irreversible thing to an individual internally. Johnny and Tim both had no interest in dying for war. No young man desires to fight for a cause he does not truly believe in and his lifelong desperation will always be a reminder. Chief valued freedom and galloped joyfully, away from the hell house he spent many years in. War had put him there and he'll never be able to live those youthful days out again. Physical injuries aren't similar to the mental ones. War is a horrible thing that these authors have wrote against. The characters are stripped of hope due to war and it is presented to the reader through a unique narration.

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Within the novels, the characters all wanted to share their despair, but it was displayed in a strange point of view. Trumbo narrated the novel in third person, which is strange because somehow the story is told inside Johnny's head. Why didn't he use Johnny's voice to tell the readers about himself through a personal dialect? The narration shows that the events are happening to Johnny. For example, when the phone was ringing in the beginning of the novel, he was helpless and did not have the ability to do anything about it. The ringing was most likely in reality. Jonny's ears ringing from a bomb that had just blown him up rather than a telephone. "Ring ring ring all night long. Maybe somebody wanted something bad. Telephones ringing at night are important. You'd think they'd pay attention to it. How could they expect him to answer it anyhow? He was tired and his head was plenty big" (Trumbo 3). NEED a transition leading into a change of texts. Look at the pages where I copy-edited to get an idea of how to do this) Chief narrates the novel, which questions the reliability of the novel. His schizophrenia is an issue, but because this is a journey towards sanity, the ending of the novel is most likely true. His biased narration may have also clouded the honesty of the story. He is speaking against the

Commented [KC1]: Parts of this paragraph can be used as commentary in your previous body paragraphs. So I would not make this a separate paragraph, but rather place portions in another spot. For example, the sentence I underlined could serve as a portion of the commentary I have highlighted in blue up above. Put this underlined sentence after the blue sentence. Now with the rest of the paragraph decide where these comments fit (take portions of this paragraph and put it after the correct evidence it correlates with up above)

Commented [KC2]: Are you supposed to include personal commentary?

Commented [KC3]: Insert commentary after this evidence. How does this evidence show that the altering of truth through using 3rd person point of view helped to reveal anti-war commentaries?

nurse, whom he believes works for the Combine. War had most likely driven Chief to a place like this. “The ward is a factory for the Combine. It’s for fixing mistakes made in the neighborhoods and in the schools and in the churches, the hospital is. When a completed product goes back out into society, all fixed up good as new, better than new sometimes, it brings joy to the Big Nurse’s heart” (Keseey 36). [NEED a transition leading into a change of texts. Look at the pages where I copy-edited to get an idea of how to do this](#) Most of The Things They Carried is told through first person and occasionally third. He, too, meddles with honesty because in his novel, it’s not true unless you feel that it’s true. For example, Kiowa’s death was told through third person. [Since Tim](#) doesn’t appear to have a personal connection with this particular event due to him not being an active participant in the search. [He](#) is still there, observing. This quote shows Tim’s guilt for Kiowa’s death and how twenty years have not wiped that away. “The morning was cold and wet. They had not slept during the night, not even for a few moments, and all three of them were feeling the tension as they moved across the field toward the river. There was nothing they could do for Kiowa. Just find him and slide him aboard a chopper.” (O’Brien 166).

[Within the novels, the characters all wanted to share their despair, but it was displayed in a strange point of view.](#) **Johnny’s narrative may have been told by Johnny himself, but he simply referred to himself in third person. The damaged boy was in and out of reality. He could not tell between his dreams and reality, as well as tell how much time passed. “He had lost all track of time...He had lost tack of everything except the tapping...Because he tapped while he was awake and dreamed of tapping while he was asleep his old difficulty in distinguishing between wakefulness and sleep sprang up” (Trumbo 165).** [Chief’s narrative was trapped in a mental institution.](#) He wrote about fog and seemed convinced that Combine

Commented [KC4]: The Combine is metaphorical. So what does he really mean when he says Combine? That would be important to note in this paper.

Commented [KC5]: Insert commentary after this evidence. How does this evidence show that the altering of truth through using 1st person point of view helped to reveal anti-war commentaries?

Commented [KC6]: Not a complete sentence

Commented [KC7]: Insert commentary after this evidence. How does this evidence show that the altering of truth through using 1st person point of view helped to reveal anti-war commentaries?

Commented [KC8]: You have the same topic sentence here. . Pick the details from this paragraph that can go in other paragraphs. I have pointed out two, and then deleted what you don’t need. This does not work as a stand alone paragraph.

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Commented [KC9]: This whole bolded part might be better than your other example from Johnny in paragraph above. So either use this one or use the one up above, but don’t use both.

The anti-war commentaries were so powerful because of the emphasized detail, the desperate states the characters were in, and the narrative perspective. The truth had been suppressed in order to build a powerful testament that reveals the senseless brutality of war. The novels were strongly worded, and it brought a detailed description of the long-term effects of war. The characters were unable to live the rest of their lives as the average person who had fortunately never been exposed to such a hostile, unforgiving environment. The three novels show how war is a thief that had robbed innocent, young men of the opportunity to spend the rest of their lives in bliss.

Commented [KC10]: This last paragraph all of your sentences begin with the subject. I would vary your sentence beginnings. Start some with single word modifiers, some with dependent clauses, some with prepositional phrases etc.

ADDITIONAL FEEDBACK

I did a lot of rearranging, so it might be a bit confusing. Here is a basic outline of how I think your paper should end up.

1. Introduction
2. Character's narration blurring truth (body 1)
3. Horrors of war (body 2)
4. Stripping characters of hope (body 3)
5. Point of view/perspective (body 4)
6. Conclusion

This gives you only 6 paragraphs in your paper rather than the amount you currently have as many are redundant and/or can serve as commentary to your previous paragraphs.

However, you have not addressed these two parts of the prompt:

2. changing societal attitudes and roles
3. personal freedom/responsibility vs Patriotism

This can happen in the commentary. In commentary, you should answer how the evidence proves your main claim (suppressed truth creates anti-war sentiments) and how it proves your sub-claim (individual topic sentences—brutalities of war, stripping of hope, and perspective)? So in the commentary, you can show personal freedom vs Patriotism and changing societal attitudes.

For example, as you answer how does this evidence prove that suppressed truth brought out the brutalities of war (the commentary in your 1st body), you can show how their sense off Patriotism led them to war, but took away their personal freedom since they are now bombarded with these horrors (this is a general idea, you would be specific with each unique evidence)