

Radiology Request/Results:

Course: English 1102: Special Topics **Date:** 4/22/19

Scan Type:

X-ray

CT Scan

MRI Scan

Orders for Scans/Tests:

Complete scan of detail, grammar, organization, and makeup of the body of text.

MRI scans, CT Scans, and X-Rays are all ways for doctors to look at injuries within the human body that may not be visible to the common eye from the outside. I found this to be extremely similar to the peer editing process because it is a look at something that cannot be seen from the outside. When you have been looking at your own writing for so long, it is easy to not see the flaws in your writing. Therefore, having someone take another look and dissect the ins and outs of your writing can give you the perfect diagnosis. Like these scans, peer reviewing looks into the deep tissue and muscle of a paper and identifies any imperfections the writer could not see themselves.

The peer review process was essential to me in this course because it allowed me to appreciate the writing of fellow students, gain practice being a critic, and allowed me to advance my own writing by learning from other writers. I found it especially helpful to edit the same person's papers across the semester because I knew what mistakes they commonly made and I could watch their progression as a writer across the semester. I found it extremely important to critique their work, but also point out positive elements of their paper. Knowing what you did wrong is important, but knowing what you did right is equally as important so that you know what kind of writing is effective.

Evaluation of Scans:

Harry Crews' tattoo reads, "How do you like your blue-eyed boy, Mr. Death?" [need to cite where you got this from, but this is a good attention grabber!](#), hopefully he likes him resilient and weathered because that is what Crews was. Harry Crews, at different points in his life, was a marine, world traveler, teacher, and writer; Crews was a man of many talents. Out of Crews' talents, he was most known for his writings. However, Crews' writings alone do not fully show us who Harry Crews

really was; Crews was a man who had lived lifetimes longer than his true age. Crews led a sporadic life accompanied by tragedy, pain, and heartbreak. The reader can begin to understand who Crews really was by first reading into his history, then dissecting his works, and finally by drawing connections between his life and his writings. I like how you laid out your structure :)

You should start your paragraph with a broader topic sentence. something to introduce what the paragraph as a whole is about rather than just jumping into the facts. Harry Crews was raised in a small family with one brother and two parents. The family of four lived in Bacon County, Georgia during the 1930s as poor tenant farmers (*New Georgia Encyclopedia*). Times were tough for the Crews family financially, and their life started to take a darker turn when Crews' father died at a young age. This hard time for Crews was made even worse for him when his mother promptly turned around and married her deceased husband's brother. Pascal, Crews' uncle and new stepfather, turned out to be an aggressive drunk (Carlson, Michael). Crews grew up in an abusive home in constant fear of his father figure. Due to this hard time you just used a very similar phrase, consider different wording to decrease repetition, Crews had a pessimistic mindset as a child according to his memoirs (*New Georgia Encyclopedia*). However, an abusive step father is not where this tragedy ends. As a five-year old, Crews started receiving leg crippling cramps from a severe fever that had him bedridden for more than two months. This setback took years to fully recover from Change to order of the words here to make it easy to read -- "It took years for him to recover from this setback." Crews himself, as an adult, connects the cramps directly to stress from an abusive home. A year later, Crews was struck again with a disaster when he was pushed into a cast-iron boiler on accident during one of his childhood games. This incident left Crews in shock and left his body physically scarred for many weeks (*New Georgia Encyclopedia*). Throughout Crews' childhood, he was scarred mentally and physically time and time again you already said "throughout Crews' childhood", so it is repetitive to say "time and time again" because it is implied it during most of his childhood, and his life did not get easier as an adult. possibly consider making this a new paragraph. His childhood and adulthood seem almost like separate ideas, but keeping them together also works! Crews' bad childhood was mirrored later as an adult. Crews first married in 1960 and had his first son soon after. Crews then got divorced and got back with his ex-wife within

a span of one year. It was in this heart numbing exchange that Crews became captivated by writing. Once they were back together, Crews had a second son and life seemed to be looking up. Once again Crews' life turned to mayhem when his oldest son drowned at a young age. The premature death of his oldest son put an immense strain on Crews' marriage, and change this to "so" for a more logical flow. I think you are trying to imply the strain caused the divorce so using "so" instead of "and" will show that correlation better they got a second divorce (Fox, Margalit). It was in this pain that his book *The Gospel Singer* took off. From Crews' pain, his fame was born. I really like this!

Harry Crews did not have an easy life by any means, but after he broke the seal with *The Gospel Singer* he made a name for himself as an author. Very soon after, Crews published four well-known novels, including his claim to fame *A Feast Of Snakes* which made its debut in 1976 (Carlson, Michael). Crews' popularity was centered around the idea that the settings he wrote about were all based on the environment that he grew up in. Ironically, Crews' first stories were not based in towns similar to Bacon county. Crews' first stories were based on middle class families living in the suburbs; this was before he became famous. Combine these sentences to be more concise! EX: "Ironically, Crews' first stories were not based in towns similar to Bacon County, but were based on middle class families living in the suburbs." It was when these stories of suburban life, which he had no experience with, became a pain to write that Crews' changed his mindset, "Whatever you got going for you is back there in bacon county. All the ugliness, sickness, beauty, miracle look of landscapes when the light looks a certain way-whatever it is, you've got to go there in your head and your heart and you've got to write about that (EnglishBobFilms) Move the citation outside the quotation marks ." After this, Crews' stories were set in the South East in similar towns to Bacon County. Crews added in the conflicts of southern hospitality with injustices surrounding stereotypes. Readers became so intrigued by the southern lifestyle that they kept coming back. The attractiveness of his books, in the eyes of readers, also came from the fact that Crews' novels were rather edgy. Crews wrote from his past experiences, including some stories which highlight the brutality of the south (Fox, Margalit).

Among all of Crews' stories, there was no question as to where he gets his material. Crews' life had been a roller coaster, constantly barraged with tragedy **after tragedy**. It was from tapping into his past that Crews' became famous. In titles such as *A Feast of Snakes*, in which the entire premise of the novel is violence, we can see the direct correlation. The violence seen in his books can be drawn from his abusive step father. The gruesome acts, seen in novels such as *The Gospel Singer* can be drawn from his burns, cramps, and his own father's death during his childhood. Lastly, the constant fights between married couples and various relationships can directly be related to his own relationship with his ex-wife. What someone writes about is personal, and it is through his own titles we really see Crews for who he was, a man who has lived through more than any man should ever have to endure.

Through Crews' past, his works, and the source of material for his writings, **his own life**, **seems like this is part of the list, but it is not so it is somewhat confusing**. we can really understand Crews' as a person. Crews was a man, proud of his lineage and history, that attempts to share his life story in the form of novels. Crews seemed to accept this at a huge turning point in his career when he stopped trying to pretend he was not from Bacon County and truly accepted his lineage by pouring his own life experience into his works. I believe that Harry Crews got his tattoo "How do you like your blue-eyed boy, Mr. Death?" thinking about the legacy he would leave behind, if he would be proud of it. I believe that this sparked his change of heart to write on his own heritage and accept who he was, because that is a legacy he learned to be proud of.

Work Cited "Harry Crews (1935-2012)." New Georgia Encyclopedia,

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EnglishBobFilms, director. Harry Crews: Just Harry. YouTube, YouTube, 17 June 2012,

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www.theguardian.com/books/2012/apr/10/harry-crews. **make sure to make these a hanging indent!**