

Sammy Student

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English 110 - Christensen

Essay 1 - Annie Dillard

In the excerpt from Annie Dillard's book "*For the Time Being*", Dillard paints a powerful picture of her experience of seeing clay imperial soldiers being dug up from the rubble in China. These soldiers are vividly described in their different forms and conditions with some clay soldiers being perfectly intact and excavated, while others seem as if they are still trying to escape the clutches of the terra-cotta earth. Dillard relies on these sets of images in her writing to create a certain feeling or idea of life and death in her readers' minds. These feelings and ideas in turn provoke her readers to analyze the main underlying themes of life and death for themselves. Dillard uses imagery in her book "*For the Time Being*" to address, represent and symbolize the underlying themes of life, death and time.

Life or the act of living is constantly referenced throughout Dillard's excerpt. When we are born we are given life, but to breath and move is not the only type of life. Dillard shows us that life can continue, even after we've stopped breathing, through her example of the clay soldiers. These soldiers are not just clay sculptures, they are, "Living people, soldiers from different regions of China" (Dillard, 3), who many years ago posed for these sculptures. In other words, these clay soldiers are representing real people who once lived and who now live again through a different

Comment [1]: 2 problems:

Titling – Incorrect title notation. Review source titling rules in **Proofreading Notes**. Big titles (of books, newspapers, magazines, album titles, etc.) get **italicized**. Small titles that fit **inside** big titles (things like essays, poems, stories, articles, chapters, sections, etc.) – get placed in "**quotation marks**." Titles are never italicized **and** placed in quotation marks at the same time, nor are they ever underlined in the body of your essay (though they can be in a works cited list).

Commas & periods inside quotes – Unless there is a parenthetical citation following the quoted material, periods and commas **always go inside the quotation marks, not outside**.

Comment [2]: Summary / Thesis introduction - This is a very well written summary opening and thesis formulation – the summary is clear, thorough and succinct, and the thesis work is sharp and articulate and exactly right in its rhetorical focus. The paragraph is exactly what it needs to be. Well done.

Comment [3]: Good paragraph topic focus work here

Comment [4]: Very nice use of the text for support

Comment [5]: 2 problems:

Renaming your source – When a quoted source has already been named or introduced in the context of your quotation and paraphrase work, do not insert the **name** of the source again in the parenthetical citation.

No commas or periods in parentheses – Review citation rules in **Proofreading Notes**. **Commas** are never used in parenthetical citations unless you are separating multiple author last names or multiple page references