Character Autopsy

Due: 2nd class period of the school year

Directions:

For each body part listed, you are to artistically and symbolically represent the protagonist from your summer reading novel. For example, a hard-hearted or stubborn character may have a heart made out of stone.

Typed, on a separate sheet of paper, for each body part, give a quotation supporting your illustration and explain that illustration and quote/metaphor in a well developed paragraph.

Body Parts:

- **The heart** should represent what this character loves most. Decide what it should look like (whole, broken, “hardened,” etc.). Write a quote next to it from the text and explain why it is drawn that way or why he loves this person/thing/idea.
- **The backbone** should convey what motivates the character most. Think about ways to show why your character does what he or she does. Write a quote next to it from the text and explain why it shows what motivates him.
- **The head** represents his dreams, philosophy or vision. Support this with a quote(s) from the text.
- **The eyes** represent who or what affects him. Support this with a quote(s) from the text.
- **The mouth** represents with whom or what he argues or debates. Support this with a quote(s) from the text.
- **The ears** represent what he notices or remembers. Support this with a quote(s) from the text.
- **The torso** represents what he doesn’t like about himself. Support this with quote(s) from the text.
- **The hands** should be holding literal (real) or figurative (symbolic) items associated with the character.
- **The hands** should be the conflict with which the character must deal. Please support with a quote and explanation from the text.
- **The arms** should show the change the character under goes in the text. (Left arm: beginning/ Right Arm: ending). You may paraphrase here, but cite the page number(s) from the text.
- **The legs** represent the actions of the character in the text. You may paraphrase here, but cite the page number(s) from the text.
- The feet should be a symbolic representation of the character’s most fundamental beliefs about life. Explain what is most important to them based on a quote(s) and why.
- **The background** should include elements that suggest the character’s environment, background, or predicament.