

“The Interlopers” – Response Paragraphs with Evidence

1. **Response Paragraph 1:** You have read the short story “The Interlopers” by Saki. Do you think the story is ultimately optimistic or pessimistic?

Write a short paragraph that states your claim in a topic sentence, that contains at least two pieces of specific evidence from the story to support your claim, and that explains the significance of each piece of evidence.

2. **Critical Articles:** Now, you are going to read two critical articles about the short story: “Critical Essay on ‘The Interlopers’” by Rena Korb and “Critical Essay on ‘The Interlopers’” by Douglas Dupler. Make notes below about the articles’ central ideas and evidence.

Korb’s Central Ideas	Evidence to Support Her Claims

Dupler’s Central Ideas	Evidence to Support His Claims

3. Response Paragraph 2: Now that you have read two critical articles about “The Interlopers,” has your opinion of the story changed? In what way(s)? Do you think the story is ultimately optimistic or pessimistic?

You may have some of the same ideas that you wrote in your first response paragraph; however, in this response paragraph, you should use evidence from the critical articles to support your claims or to present counterclaims that you can address in your response/analysis.

Below are some examples of citations:

Saki suggests that civilization or society influences man’s actions by “restraining” him, yet Nature is unrestrained by man’s laws and can therefore be quite violent (Saki 2). Even though the men have decided to make peace, their understanding is still limited; they still only see proper behavior according to society’s norms and do not understand that nature does not adhere to those codes (Korb para. 10).

In the first citation, Saki is the author of the source, and the number 2 indicates the page number the information is on. The second citation has the author’s last name; however, since there are no page numbers in the article, paragraph numbers can be used to indicate the location of information being referenced.

Below, write a short response explaining your view of the story, incorporating evidence from the story as well as from each article. **Is “The Interlopers” by Saki ultimately optimistic or pessimistic?**