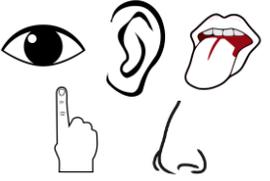
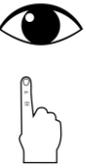


DIRECTIONS: 1) Choose one of the short stories from the options provided. 2) Read the story (on your own). 3) Fill out the chart using the example as a guide. 4) Use the chart to help you write the paragraph.

REVIEW: **Imagery** is a written description that attempts to capture a sense experience (sight, sound, taste, touch, smell). It is an attempt to help the reader “experience” the events through written description. The feelings that the image creates is its **connotation**.

IMAGE (QUOTE FROM THE STORY)	TYPE OF IMAGE 	CONNOTATION (THE FEELING IT CREATES IN THE TEXT) W/ EXPLANATION	WHAT THE IMAGE REVEALS ABOUT EITHER PLOT OR CHARACTER
EXAMPLE (from “My Biafran Eyes”) One determined push and their assailants would have breached the barricades, poached and minced them, and made a <u>bonfire of their bodies</u> . (2).		Fear. The fire imagery suggests the imagined fate Ndibe’s father feels when cornered by the hostile mob-- not just death but total eradication.	War represents more than just the potential for death, since it is difficult to be dispassionate about it. The fear of death becomes a process of constantly imagining potential violence in the worst possible way. In war, death represents not just an erasure of identity, but a horrific event that implies both violence and pain.

DIRECTIONS FOR THE PARAGRAPH: Each story communicates some idea about life. It can suggest what life is like, argue how life should / should not be, or demonstrate what it means to be human. This is a message or theme of the story (there will be more than one).

Choose one of the items on your chart and argue how it helps to communicate some bigger idea in the text. Use textual evidence (quotation) in support of your answer. The paragraph will comprise half the overall grade for this activity. **Vocabulary help:** sight = visual imagery, sound = auditory imagery, taste = gustatory imagery, touch = tactile imagery, and smell = olfactory imagery. **Synonyms for “suggests” (when used in context of imagery):** evokes, connotes, or implies (but NOT *infers*-- this is what the reader does, not the text).

EXAMPLE (from Okey Ndibe’s “My Biafran Eyes”)

The visual and tactile imagery in “My Biafran Eyes” suggests how terrible war really is. For example, in Ndibe’s re-telling of his father’s experiences when threatened by angry mob in a northern Nigerian village, the author describes how “one determined push and [his] assailants would have breached the barricades, poached and minced them, and made a bonfire of their bodies” (2). The fire imagery evokes both sight and (in context) touch, since Ndibe’s father can both imagine the sight of his destruction as well as the crackle of flame on his flesh. The hypothetical bonfire, then, suggests not just early death (terrible in most contexts), but total eradication in a particularly violent and nasty way. In this way, it embodies Ndibe’s father’s fear of what could (and probably will) happen to him. This, in turn, suggests the terror of war, because for its victims, war represents more than just the potential for death, since it is very difficult to be dispassionate about the prospect of one’s own demise. Instead, living with the fear of death becomes a process of constantly imagining potential violence in the worst possible way-- becoming a sort of psychological torture in which death represents not just an erasure of identity, but a horrific event that implies both violence and pain.

The topic sentence must connect to a theme in the story. In this case, I chose the idea that war is terrible.

Set up the quote by 1) introducing it as an example, and 2) describing the context that it appears in the story. It’s quite possible that the image (and, thus, your quote) may only be two or three words long.

Use the chart to help you. Describe what kind of image it is and explain what the image connotes. The most basic connotation is “positive” or “negative,” but try to use an image that is more suggestive than this for more credit.

Connect the connotation back to the original idea of the first sentence (a theme or big idea in the story). Again, if you were smart about how you filled in the chart, you can simply adapt what you already wrote for the last column.

STRUCTURE OF PARAGRAPH = INTRODUCE THEME → IMAGE FROM TEXT → CREATES CONNOTATION → WHICH CONNECTS BACK TO THEME