



Assignment

Comparative Analysis

Tennessee Williams' *The Glass Menagerie* and Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* are both memory plays, but the two playwrights frame and infuse memory in distinctly different ways in shaping their non-linear manuscripts. Build an essay (5 to 7 pages) in which you compare and contrast some of the specific ways each author uses memory to build characterization, narrative, and theme.

In thinking about your approach to this complex analysis, compare such aspects as the point of view controlling the structural framing in which memory is embedded. For instance, does the point of view affect objectivity and subjectivity in shaping characterization and unfolding narrative? In what specific ways do scenes of memory contribute to the building of what you perceive to be the primary theme of each play?