



ENGLISH 200 Summer 2013

## Weekend Paper 1: An Exercise in Deduction

Due in class and in [www.turnitin.com](http://www.turnitin.com) on Monday June 10

Doyle's stories have inspired many imitators over the years; the reuse of his characters, plots, and narrative strategies is known in literary terms as a 'pastiche,' a reassembly of elements from other sources. One particularly good pastiche of Doyle is Neil Gaiman's Hugo-Award winning short story "A Study in Emerald," which is available at <http://www.neilgaiman.com/medifiles/exclusive/shortstories/emerald.pdf>. You will notice that even the appearance of the story is part of the pastiche, since Gaiman and his illustrator (Jouni Koponen) have laid the story out as if it was appearing in a late Victorian newspaper or magazine.

Your task for this first weekend paper is to read and analyze Gaiman's pastiche, and write a briefish (3-5 pages) analysis of how Gaiman uses (or changes/displaces) Doyle's narrative strategies in this short story. You won't be able to focus on **all** the techniques Gaiman uses in such a short paper, so pick **two or three** that seem particularly important to you and focus on them. . Please make sure that you have a sharp argumentative thesis for this paper and that you support the claims you make with specific evidence from the particular literary texts you analyze; as Holmes says, "It is a capital mistake to theorize in advance of the facts."

You should create a correct 2009 MLA-style Works Cited entry for this story and any citations you take from the textbooks; you are NOT required to do outside research for this paper, and in fact, I'd rather you NOT use outside materials, but rather, do the deducing yourself. Enjoy!