

to no public interactions that would be considered rebellious, yet Virginia Woolf publishing the work is a very clear, public social statement.

Rebecca Pyatkevich 9/27/15 9:46 AM

Comment [11]: There ****js**** that section in chapter 6 that's like a graduation speech, where she is exhorting the women listening to her to do a certain number of things.

Works Cited

Plato. *Five Dialogues*. Indianapolis/Cambridge: Hackett Publishing Company. 2002. [Print](#).

Woolf, Virginia. *A Room of One's Own*. 1929. Orlando: Harcourt, 2005. [Print](#).

Dear [REDACTED]

This paper has a lot of potential. Here are some things that are already very positive about it:

- (1) Your introduction does a good job of letting the reader know what works you'll be talking about, giving enough but not too much background information, and setting up the intellectual problem (rebels are usually public figures; yet VW and S try to escape that role) that you're trying to resolve.
- (2) You do a good job of citing relevant backup information that illustrates your analysis, and you do well with integrating it into your prose and providing analysis.

Rebecca Pyatkevich 9/27/15 9:00 AM

Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5"

What could be improved:

In general, the paper meanders a bit because you're still working on articulating a thesis that would pull it together. So although your comments and analyses of both *Dialogues* and *A Room of One's Own* are generally thoughtful and well-executed in themselves, it's not always clear if and how they connect to the problem you're trying to solve.

- (1) Although your introduction sets up the intellectual problem you'll be exploring, you don't actually give a solution or a thesis that helps to address/resolve this problem.
- So, yes, VW and S make for strange public figures because they try to escape that,

Rebecca Pyatkevich 9/27/15 9:18 AM

Formatted: Numbered + Level: 1 + Numbering Style: 1, 2, 3, ... + Start at: 1 + Alignment: Left + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5"

but: WHY do they try to escape it? To what end? Are their reasons for doing so similar? Different? Similar in some ways, but different in others? HOW do they do it? In similar ways? In different ways?

(2) I think solving problem 1 above will go a long way toward helping you to do more with what you have, or perhaps, when needed, to rework and find supporting information elsewhere. I would advise making sure from the opening of your body paragraphs that it's clear how it connects to the issue of S or VW choosing to remain in the private sphere. So, your first paragraph about Socrates talks a lot about Socrates' wisdom, but the fact that he uses that for public purposes is buried in the middle of the paragraph. Your analysis focuses on what wisdom means for Socrates, not on what Socrates does with his wisdom and why. Yet it's the latter, I think, that relates to the question. Similar issues crop up in other paragraphs in the body.

(3) A **lot** is going on in your conclusion. Sometimes, during the writing process and in drafts, the conclusion is where the paper and the insights really begin to come together, so you may want to think about what in the conclusion may actually do a better job of relocated elsewhere in the paper. For example, the opening of the conclusion paragraph almost sounds like a potential thesis, because it explains **how** and **why** S and VW end up more public than they perhaps seek to be. You do provide some summary in the conclusion (which makes sense), and kind of gesture toward broader significance, but then you slip back into analysis. So some reorganization and condensing would help.

Please let me know if you have questions!