

**ang070 S/Ü "Introduction to the Critical and Scholarly Discussion of Literature"**  
**Assignment 3: "Analysing Fiction"**

**This assignment is a mandatory part of your portfolio and needs to be handed in on time. It is ungraded but a sample solution will be published on the Institutswiki. Additionally, you can receive feedback in the office hours of your respective instructors.**

**Please make sure to submit your assignment stapled together but not bound in any folder. Every assignment must include a cover sheet and the statement on plagiarism. Present your results in complete sentences. You may write up to three pages of text, according to the formatting specifications of our style sheet. Any text beyond the first three pages will be ignored.**

Analyze the following passage:

"The singular alterations of courtesy and ill-breeding [...] a true hidalgo Cereno."  
("Benito Cereno" 52-3)

The text is specified according to the following edition:

Melville, Herman. "Benito Cereno." 1855. *Melville's Short Novels*. Ed. Dan McCall. New York and London: Norton, 2002. 34-102.

**Formal and Media-specific Analysis: Focalization, Narration, Characterization**

- (1) Focalization: Identify and comment on the use of (and the potential shifts in) focalization in the given passage.
- (2) Narration: Identify and categorize the narrator according to the typology of narrators.
- (3) Characterization: Who is characterized by whom and with what technique?

**Functional Analysis: Toward a Problem-oriented Sample Analysis**

Build your functional analysis on the data generated through your formal analysis and suggest a possible problem orientation:

- (4) Identify a research problem.
- (5) Suggest one other passage from the novel that corresponds and/or contrasts with the given passage in an aspect relevant to the research problem you have specified.
- (6) Briefly discuss how both passages relate to this problem. Address potential differences in representation and their possible functions.