The oppression of minorities and persons of color is as rampant today, if not worse, than it was 60 years ago during the Civil Rights Movement. In Colson Whitehead’s novel *The Nickel Boys* and Tommy Orange’s novel *There There*, we see examples of the various ways in which POC continue to be oppressed by the dominant status quo. The violence and abuse the inmates at Nickel Academy endured still exists in various prison institutions today. Whitehead’s novel functions as a metaphor or a reflection of the violence and oppression that is rampant in prisons today and is shaping the lives of millions of citizens each and every day.

OBSERVATION OF LITERARY DEVICE + VERB = ANALYSIS