“A Rose for Emily” Questions - Please answer these questions on another piece of paper.
1. What is the point of view of the story?
2. What does the title of the story suggest about the townspeople’s feelings toward Miss Emily? Why do they feel this way about her? (Or: What does she represent to them?) Is there anything ironic about their feelings?
3. Describe and discuss the symbolism of Miss Emily’s house.
4. What is the role of “the smell” incident in the story? What other problems has Miss Emily caused the local authorities?
5. How do the townspeople know what they know about Miss Emily’s life? What is the source of their information?
6. Consider the mixed quality of the townspeople’s reactions to Miss Emily’s “failures.”
7. What is the significance of Miss Emily’s actions after the death of her father?
8. What role does Homer Barron play in the story? Is there anything ironic about a match between him and Miss Emily?
9. What is the horrible revelation about Miss Emily that the story ends with? How is this related to the overall meaning of the story?