Explication 2

Using every thing you know about explication, write a cogent, short essay of 650-800 words on the following passage analyzing language, content, rhetorical structure, and literary devices. Remember that plot summary and paraphrase are not analysis. (PS=BS, in other words.)

For more about explication, refer to http://www.engl.unt.edu/~anne/explication/explication.html

The Passage

What is your opinion of your own execrable vanity?
My execrable vanity is like that of the fabled cat who studied ornithology, m’Lord.

His desire to profess his final and perpetual vows—was it not akin to the motive of the cat who became an ornithologist?—so that he might glorify his own ornithophagy, esoterically devouring Penthestes atricapillus but never eating chickades. For, as the cat was called by Nature to be an ornithophage, so was Francis called by his own nature hungrily to devour such knowledge as could be taught in those days, and because there were no schools but the monastic schools, he had donned the habit first of a postulant, later of a novice. But to suspect that God as well as Nature had beckoned him to become a professed monk of the order?

Turning in Your Explication

Turn in—in a 9” x 12” clasped envelope—the following:

- All notes, etc. that went into your paper
- Your explication

Rough Draft: Wednesday, February 24
Final Draft 1: Monday, March 1

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