

Literary Analysis Essay Outline Middle School

Title: Analyzing [Title of the Literary Work]

I. Introduction

Hook: Start with an attention-grabbing statement or question related to the theme or central idea of the literary work.

Background Information: Provide brief background information about the author and the text being analyzed.

Thesis Statement: State your argument or main idea about the literary work. What will your essay seek to prove or analyze?

II. Summary of the Literary Work

Provide a brief summary of the plot, focusing on key events and characters necessary for understanding your analysis.

III. Analysis of Characters

Discuss the main characters in the literary work and their roles in the story.

Describe their personalities, motivations, conflicts, and relationships with other characters.

Provide evidence from the text to support your analysis.

IV. Analysis of Themes

Identify and discuss the major themes or central ideas present in the literary work.

Explain how these themes contribute to the overall meaning of the text.

Provide examples or quotes from the text to support your analysis.

V. Analysis of Literary Devices

Identify and analyze literary devices used by the author, such as symbolism, imagery, metaphor, simile, irony, etc.

Explain how these literary devices contribute to the development of the characters, themes, and overall narrative.

Provide examples from the text to illustrate your analysis.

VI. Conclusion

Restate your thesis statement and summarize the main points of your analysis.

Reflect on the significance of your analysis and its implications for understanding the literary work as a whole.

End with a thought-provoking statement or question that encourages further reflection on the text.

VII. Works Cited (if applicable)

Include a list of works cited in MLA or APA format, if required by your teacher or the assignment guidelines.

