

Literary Analysis Essay



Graphic Organizer (Five Paragraph Essay)

Overall Essay Planner:

Use this page of the graphic organizer to plan what your overall essay will be about (your claim) and what reasons you have to show that your claim is true. These reasons will be the basis for your body paragraphs

A) Intro Paragraph: What is your claim? (Your claim is the answer to the essay prompt or what you are going to argue throughout your essay)

B) Paragraph 1: Identify one reason that your claim is true

C) Paragraph 2: Identify a second reason that your claim is true

D) Paragraph 3: Identify a third reason that your claim is true

Should be the same claim!

E) Conclusion Paragraph: Restate the claim you made above (in box A) in a different way

Intro Paragraph:

1) Hook (1-2 Sentences): (Some question, piece of information, or statement that will capture the reader's attention)

2) Background information (1-2 Sentences): (this should be information as to why the prompts is relevant or important)

3) Context (1-2 Sentences): (this is how the prompt relates to the piece of literature you are reading. The title and author of the piece needs to be included here as well)

4) Claim: (You can take this from box A on page 1)

Body Paragraph: #1

1) Topic Sentence: (You can take this from box B on page 1)

2) Quote #1 from the text: (This quote should be evidence from the text to support this paragraph's topic sentence)

3) Commentary: (This is an explanation *in your own words* what the quote says)

4) Commentary: (This is an explanation *in your own words* how the text supports your topic sentence)

5) Quote #2 from the text: (This quote should be evidence from the text to support this paragraph's topic sentence)

6) Commentary: (This is an explanation *in your own words* what the quote says)

7) Commentary: (This is an explanation *in your own words* how the text supports your topic sentence)

8) Concluding Sentence: (This should be a final statement that sums up your argument for this paragraph, and explains how it connects back to the thesis)

Body Paragraph #2

1) Topic Sentence: (You can take this from box C on page 1)

2) Quote #3 from the text: (This quote should be evidence from the text to support this paragraph's topic sentence)

3) Commentary: (This is an explanation *in your own words* what the quote says)

4) Commentary: (This is an explanation *in your own words* how the text supports your topic sentence)

5) Quote #4 from the text: (This quote should be evidence from the text to support this paragraph's topic sentence)

6) Commentary: (This is an explanation *in your own words* what the quote says)

7) Commentary: (This is an explanation *in your own words* how the text supports your topic sentence)

8) Concluding Sentence: (This should be a final statement that sums up your argument for this paragraph, and explains how it connects back to the thesis)

Body Paragraph #3

1) Topic Sentence: (You can take this from box D on page 1)

2) Quote #5 from the text: (This quote should be evidence from the text to support this paragraph's topic sentence)

3) Commentary: (This is an explanation *in your own words* what the quote says)

4) Commentary: (This is an explanation *in your own words* how the text supports your topic sentence)

5) Quote #6 from the text: (This quote should be evidence from the text to support this paragraph's topic sentence)

6) Commentary: (This is an explanation *in your own words* what the quote says)

7) Commentary: (This is an explanation *in your own words* how the text supports your topic sentence)

8) Concluding Sentence: (This should be a final statement that sums up your argument for this paragraph, and explains how it connects back to the thesis)

Conclusion Paragraph:

1) Restate the three main points of your essay: (These are the three topic sentences from your body paragraphs, and should be said differently to remind the reader what they are)



2) Restate your claim in a different way: (You can take this from box E on page 1)



3) Final statement about why your claim is important: (This is the “so what” or “what now” explanation of the claim as it relates to the prompt)