**Literary Analysis Essay Writing**

Introduction: Tell Them What You Are Going To Tell Them

* Hook
* A quote, statistic, or statement that draws the reader in to reading the essay
* Purpose/Reasoning
* Provide general information about the main idea
* Tell the reader why he/she should keep reading
* Thesis Statement
* A sentence discussing the point you will support

Thesis Statements

* A thesis must be arguable and provable
* A thesis is not a title, announcement of the statement, or absolute fact
* Title – Correctly punctuated with quotes or outline
* Author – Full name
* Craft – Something the author does/uses to create the…
* Effect – Discuss the literary effect in the work as it relates to the main idea/theme

Thesis Statement Examples

* In “The Road not Taken” Robert Frost uses the symbol of a forked path in a woods to represent choosing between the known and the daring.
* In “Brick” by Ben Folds Five, Ben Folds uses the metaphor of drowning to represent the effects of depression.
* The raft on the Mississippi River in Twain’s The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn is a place with different rules than the towns along the river.
* Animal Farm, by George Orwell, effectively symbolizes the Russian Revolution causing his readers to question authority.

Body Paragraphs: Tell Them

* Transition
* Lead in from previous paragraph
* Topic Sentence
* Tells the reader what will be discussed in the paragraph
* Evidence
* Supports your claim and provides more detail than the topic sentence
* Includes a properly cited quote from the book
* Brief Wrap-up
* Explains why the information is important to the overall purpose of the paper

Conclusion: Tell Them What You Told Them

* Restate your topic
* Restate does not mean copy and paste
* Restate your thesis
* Try rewriting your TACE thesis in a different order
* Simplicity is best for a clear conclusion
* DO NOT bring in new points in the final paragraph

**MLA Format**

* Heading (double spaced)
* Name
* Instructor (Mr. Gathman)
* Class (English 7-8, Block)
* Date
* 12 pt., Times New Roman, double spaced throughout, 1 inch margins on all sides
* Last name and page number in the top right hand corner
* Title is NOT underlined or bolded
* Naming Works
* Underline (or Italics if typed): Books, *Magazines*, Newspapers, and *Plays*
* Quotation Marks: “Stories”, “Songs”, “Poems”, and “Articles”

**MLA In-Text Citations**

In-text Citations: The Basics

* Use a parenthetical citation
* (page number).
  + No commas and punctuation comes after the citation
* Example: Human beings have been described as "symbol-using animals" (3).
* If there is only one source, you need only mention the authors name during the first citation

Sandwiching In-text Ciations

* Bread
* Set up your quote explaining your claim and its relation to your point
* Meat and Veggies
* Include a properly cited quote
* Bread
* Explain why this quote is significant and how it proves your point

The Different Looks of In-text Citations

* Wordsworth stated that Romantic poetry was marked by a "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (263).
* Romantic poetry is characterized by the "spontaneous overflow of powerful feelings" (Wordsworth 263).
* Wordsworth extensively explored the role of emotion in the creative process (263).

Plagiarism

* You may not copy and paste from the internet
* Any time that you use a source other than your own brain, you must cite it in your essay and on the works cited page (if a work cited is needed)
* Proof of plagiarism will result in a zero (0) on your essay, peer revision, and revision – there will be no chance to redo a plagiarized essay

Online Resource

http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl