Literary Analysis Essay Outline Template

Introduction*

A. Grab attention_____

_____

B. Incorporate background information (title, author, historical context) _____

_____

_____

C. Provide bridge to thesis (discuss story's theme or historical context) _____

_____

_____

D. State thesis _____

_____

_____

* Your introduction should NOT: 1) summarize the plot or 2) begin your analysis.

First Body Paragraph

A. Topic sentence – Present argument _____

_____

_____

B. First remark proving topic argument_____

_____

_____

      1. Incorporate a quotation to provide defense _____

      _____

      2. Elaborate (Show how first point and quotation prove topic argument.) _____

      _____

      _____

C. Second remark proving topic argument_____

_____

_____

      1. Incorporate a quotation to provide defense _____

      _____

2. Elaborate (Show how first point and quotation prove topic argument.) _____

_____

_____

D. Clinch the paragraph _____

_____

Second Body Paragraph

A. Topic sentence – Present argument _____

_____

_____

B. First remark proving topic argument_____

_____

_____

    1. Incorporate a quotation to provide defense _____

    _____

    2. Elaborate (Show how first point and quotation prove topic argument.) _____

    _____

    _____

C. Second remark proving topic argument_____

_____

_____

    1. Incorporate a quotation to provide defense _____

    _____

    2. Elaborate (Show how first point and quotation prove topic argument.) _____

    _____

    _____

D. Clinch the paragraph _____

_____

Third Body Paragraph

A. Topic sentence – Present argument _____

_____

_____

B. First remark proving topic argument_____

_____

_____

      1. Incorporate a quotation to provide defense _____

           _____

      2. Elaborate (Show how first point and quotation prove topic argument.) _____

           _____

           _____

C. Second remark proving topic argument_____

_____

_____

      1. Incorporate a quotation to provide defense _____

           _____

      2. Elaborate (Show how first point and quotation prove topic argument.) _____

           _____

           _____

D. Clinch the paragraph _____

_____

Additional Body Paragraphs (Use the same format on separate paper.)

Conclusion*

A. Restate the thesis (Use fresh wording.) _____

_____

_____

B. Reflect (Show why is this information important, interesting, or applicable.) _____

_____

_____

C. Finishing thought _____

_____

_____

Your conclusion should NOT: 1) summarize the plot or 2) restate the thesis with the same words.