

Advanced 10th

Ms. Horwath

Limited Literary Analysis

What is a limited literary analysis? A limited literary analysis:

- Interprets a text without using secondary sources.
- Is a committed exploration of a work's meaning.
- Aims to enrich understanding
- Involves an insightful, focused thesis about the work's meaning.
- Reveals a firm grasp of literary concepts.
- Involves a close reading that demonstrates a grasp of both the parts and the work as a whole.

You are to write a limited literary analysis of *Lord of the Flies*. Your choices of topics are listed below—one topic per student; no two students may use the same topic.

Topics

1. Trace the symbolism of the conch through the novel, showing how the shell is invested with power and how that power is destroyed.
2. Discuss the use of nature in the novel, showing how it foreshadows what will happen, how it works against man, how it parallels man's emotional state.
3. Show how Golding uses irony in *Lord of the Flies*.
4. Follow the boys' loss of civilization and discuss the ways in which Golding lets us know they are becoming more savage.
5. Compare Piggy and Simon as doomed heroes.
6. Theorize as to whether the novel is ultimately optimistic or pessimistic.
7. Consider *Lord of the Flies* as a fable and demonstrate what ideas or beliefs Ralph and Jack represent.
8. Trace the changes that occur in the nature of the "beast" throughout the story.
9. Follow the development and breakdown of Ralph's idea of game playing.
10. Trace the disintegration of Jack's speech and the rise of animalistic abilities.
11. Discuss the use of fire imagery in the novel.
12. Follow the breakdown of Ralph's system of beliefs and show how his thinking changes in the story.

13. Discuss Jack's understanding of fear and the beast and show how he uses his knowledge.
14. Show how Golding makes use of light and dark to convey the deeper meanings of his story.
15. Compare Ralph, Jack, and Simon's journey across the island at the beginning of the novel with Ralph, Jack, and Roger's journey later in the story.
16. Consider the power of names, naming, and losing a name in the story. Show how Golding uses these concepts to enhance the meaning of the book.
17. Explore the meaning of the title.
18. "Fear is the enemy to civilization; fear prevents construction and progress." Discuss the fragility of civilization against the destructive powers of fear."
19. Explore the meaning of Golding's frequent repetition of the colors red/pink or blue/white in the novel.
20. Discuss the relationship between symbolism and theme in the text.
21. Explore the use of religious symbolism in the novel.

Technical requirements for your literary analysis:

- 3 pages
- Typed
- Double spaced
- 12 font/Times Roman
- MLA format
- Paper is due_____

Where to Begin?

Significant Quotes:

Thesis Statement _____

Claim #1 _____

Claim#2 _____

Claim#3 _____

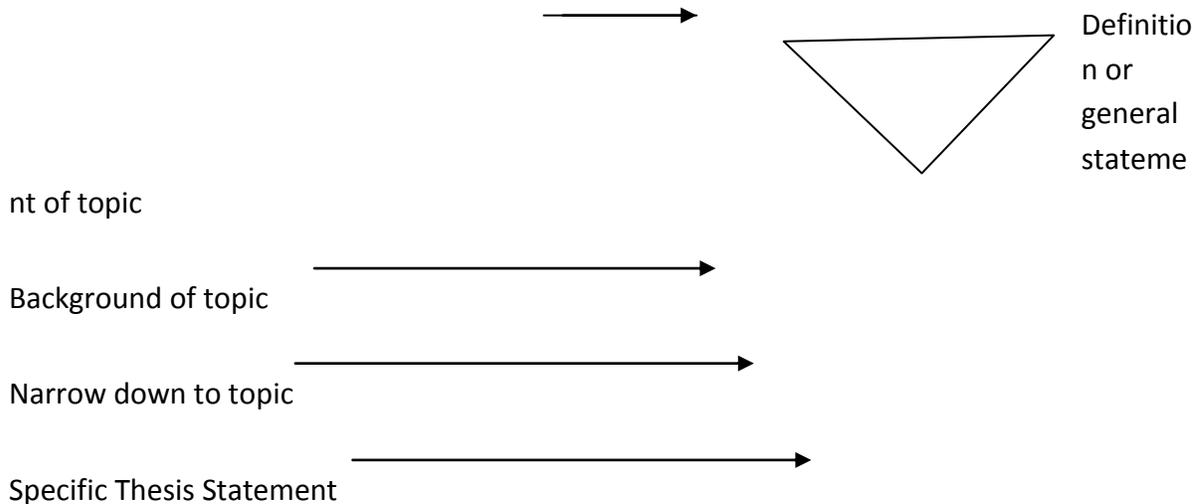
Claim#4 _____

Claim#5 _____

A. Title

Please title your paper. Be creative when giving your paper a title. Hint: “Character Analysis” is not an original title! Title should be centered. DO NOT capitalize, underline, or use quotation marks on your paper’s title. If you use the title of the novel in the title of your paper underline only the title of the novel.

B. Introduction



C. Body Paragraphs

Each paragraph should contain two to three quotes or quote bits to illustrate your point. Quotes are like pictures in a book. They do not tell the story; they illustrate it. You are the storyteller. Do not depend on your quotes to prove your point. What you say about your quote (how you logically tie your quotes into your argument) should prove your point. You should be able to take your quotes out of your paper and the logic and sense of your point should still be there. You need to discuss each quote and show how it illustrates the point you are making. Never expect the reader to do this for himself. You must show the reader why the particular quote you chose is relevant to the point you are making. This means you will always discuss each quote you use to show how it illustrates your point. With this structure in place, you will never end a body paragraph with a quote.

1. Make a statement which is your **claim**.
2. Use a quote or quote bit to illustrate your point. This is your **support**.
3. Analysis: logically show the reader how the particular quote or example proves your point. This is your **explanation**.

