

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Period: \_\_\_\_\_

### Literary Analysis Essay Graphic Organizer

**In your own words, what is the prompt asking you to write about?**

**Brainstorming: Use this section to begin brainstorming for your essay. You can create a bubble map, free write, list, t-chart, etc. You should also start gathering your evidence and information that will help you answer the prompt.**

## Introduction Paragraph

*Your introduction should start off with a hook sentence. In the introduction, the reader should find the main idea of the essay expressed in the thesis statement. The introduction should also provide some background information about the topic or a brief summary of the texts being discussed. If the essay is about a specific text(s) the introduction should also introduce the name of the texts and the author's first and last names.*

**Hook Sentence:** Hook sentences might (1) make a striking assertion, (2) provide an anecdote or example that helps show the subject or topic of the essay, (3) ask a provoking question about the topic, or (4) use an interesting detail, statistic, or quote. The hook should grab the reader's attention and make them want to read your essay:

**Introduce the text(s) and authors analyzed in the essay:**

**Provide a brief summary/overview about the texts that will be discussed in the essay (2-5 sentences):**

**Thesis Statement:** This is your opinion about the topic. It should be one clear sentence that answers the writing prompt.

## Body Paragraph #1

*Body paragraphs provide evidence from your research and discuss how it supports/proves your thesis statement. Each body paragraph should have between 1-3 pieces of textual evidence in the form of direct quotes and paraphrasing. Each piece of textual evidence must have an in text citation, which gives credit to where this information came from/who wrote it. Along with the textual evidence, you must include an explanation for why this evidence supports your thesis statement.*

**Topic Sentence:** This sentence should introduce what this paragraph will be about as well as connect to the thesis statement. In other words, it should tell the reader one reason that your thesis statement is true.

**Textual Evidence:** This quote should be evidence from the text to support this paragraph's topic sentence. Be sure to tell where this information comes from (author's last name and page number).

*Set Up Sentence:*

*Textual Evidence (Quote):*

*Citation:*

**Explanation/Analysis:** How does the evidence support the thesis statement? Explanation should answer these questions: "How does this quote support my topic sentence for this paragraph?", "How is this quote point important to my paper?" and "Why did I just tell all this to my reader?" Your explanation/analysis should be between 2-5 sentences long.

**Transition Sentence:** Wrap up what this paragraph was about and preview for the reader what the next paragraph will be about.

## Body Paragraph #2

**Topic Sentence:** This sentence should introduce what this paragraph will be about as well as connect to the thesis statement. In other words, it should tell the reader a second reason that your thesis statement is true.

**Textual Evidence:** This quote should be evidence from the text to support this paragraph's topic sentence. Be sure to tell where this information comes from (author's last name and page number).

*Set Up Sentence:*

*Textual Evidence (Quote):*

*Citation:*

**Explanation/Analysis:** How does the evidence support the thesis statement? Explanation should answer these questions: "How does this quote support my topic sentence for this paragraph?", "How is this quote point important to my paper?" and "Why did I just tell all this to my reader?" Your explanation/analysis should be between 2-5 sentences long.

**Transition Sentence:** Wrap up what this paragraph was about and preview for the reader what the next paragraph will be about.

### Body Paragraph #3

**Topic Sentence:** This sentence should introduce what this paragraph will be about as well as connect to the thesis statement. In other words, it should tell the reader a third reason that your thesis statement is true.

**Textual Evidence:** This quote should be evidence from the text to support this paragraph's topic sentence. Be sure to tell where this information comes from (author's last name and page number).

*Set Up Sentence:*

*Textual Evidence (Quote):*

*Citation:*

**Explanation/Analysis:** How does the evidence support the thesis statement? Explanation should answer these questions: "How does this quote support my topic sentence for this paragraph?", "How is this quote point important to my paper?" and "Why did I just tell all this to my reader?" Your explanation/analysis should be between 2-5 sentences long.

**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.

## Concluding Paragraph

*The concluding paragraph should include a general summary statement that recaps the thesis, a sentence that restates the major points of argument, and a closing statement. The closing statement could contain insights of the essay writer, encourage the reader to take action, emphasize the importance of one of the points of argument, or create a solid sense of finality. You should NOT introduce any new arguments in the conclusion; only restate or summarize what has already been said.*

**Restate Thesis Statement: Remind the reader of your thesis statement from your first paragraph. Make sure to keep the same argument but say it in a slightly different way.**

**Summarize the key supporting points/arguments: These were presented in the topic sentences of the body paragraphs and should relate directly back to your thesis statement.**

**Closing Statement: The “So what?” section of your essay – sometimes referred to as the “kicker” statement. Why is this important? Why should the reader care about what you discussed in your paper? You may end with a thoughtful question, quote, or idea. However, you should not include new evidence in your last paragraph.**