**Literary Analysis Outline:**

**Hook:** Your chance to get the reader’s attention and display your awareness of the world around you.

**Introduction Paragraph**

**Transitional Ideas:** Connect your hook to your novel (one to two sentences).

**Identify Author and Title**: As an additional transition sentence to introduce your essay (you might choose to place this before or after your other transition sentences).

**Basic Background of the Novel**: One or two sentences about the main plot or theme of the story.

**Thesis Statement:** Remember, this has to take a position about the novel that can be supported through events in the story, literary devices, and/or characterizations. Be specific.

**Literary Analysis Outline (2):**

**Topic Sentence:** Identify the focus of your paragraph; should clearly connect to/develop/support the thesis statement.

**Body Paragraphs**

**Evidence from the Novel:** This can take the form of two to three short examples (quotations) or one extended example (block quotation)

**Introduce Example:** This is the place to use a transition word (attached) or transition phrase (attached).

**Example:** Use quotations from the novel or ***briefly*** paraphrase an event. Do not just summarize the plot. Avoid excessively long quotations unless absolutely necessary (they require very specific formatting).

**Commentary:** Follow your example with an explanation of its connection to the topic sentence/thesis. Tell us why your quotation matters. If there is a literary device in your example, consider identifying it.

**Repeat for each example/quotation used**

**Closing Sentence:** “Clincher” to end this paragraph and wrap up the idea.

**Literary Analysis Outline (3):**

**Restate Thesis:** Do NOT repeat your thesis; restate it to remind the reader what your essay was about. This may also be a good time to reference your essay’s hook.

**Conclusion Paragraph**

**Summarize your Evidence:**  Briefly tell us how you supported your thesis statement.

**So What:** Provide a significant final thought for the reader which invites them to apply your idea beyond the essay (think the happy ending/moral at the end of a story)

Illustration

Thus, for example, for instance, namely, to illustrate, in other words, in particular, specifically, such as.

Contrast

On the contrary, contrarily, notwithstanding, but, however, nevertheless, in spite of, in contrast, yet, on one hand, on the other hand, rather, or, nor, conversely, at the same time, while this may be true.

Addition

And, in addition to, furthermore, moreover, besides, than, too, also, both-and, another, equally important, first, second, etc., again, further, last, finally, not only-but also, as well as, in the second place, next, likewise, similarly, in fact, as a result, consequently, in the same way, for example, for instance, however, thus, therefore, otherwise.

Time

After, afterward, before, then, once, next, last, at last, at length, first, second, etc., at first, formerly, rarely, usually, another, finally, soon, meanwhile, at the same time, for a minute, hour, day, etc., during the morning, day, week, etc., most important, later, ordinarily, to begin with, afterwards, generally, in order to, subsequently, previously, in the meantime, immediately, eventually, concurrently, simultaneously.

Space

At the left, at the right, in the center, on the side, along the edge, on top, below, beneath, under, around, above, over, straight ahead, at the top, at the bottom, surrounding, opposite, at the rear, at the front, in front of, beside, behind, next to, nearby, in the distance, beyond, in the forefront, in the foreground, within sight, out of sight, across, under, nearer, adjacent, in the background.

Concession

Although, at any rate, at least, still, thought, even though, granted that, while it may be true, in spite of, of course.

Similarity or Comparison

Similarly, likewise, in like fashion, in like manner, analogous to.

Emphasis

Above all, indeed, truly, of course, certainly, surely, in fact, really, in truth, again, besides, also, furthermore, in addition.

Details

Specifically, especially, in particular, to explain, to list, to enumerate, in detail, namely, including.

Examples

For example, for instance, to illustrate, thus, in other words, as an illustration, in particular.

Consequence or Result

So that, with the result that, thus, consequently, hence, accordingly, for this reason, therefore, so, because, since, due to, as a result, in other words, then.

Summary

Therefore, finally, consequently, thus, in short, in conclusion, in brief, as a result, accordingly.

Suggestion

For this purpose, to this end, with this in mind, with this purpose in mind, therefore.

Citing your Novel:

It is absolutely integral that you tell your reader where your quotation (or paraphrase) came from. To do this you must place your quotation within quotation marks (“”) if it is a direct quote. If it is not a direct quotation, but a paraphrase, you still need to tell the reader what page you are describing.

Example:

In the story of *Peter Pan,* when telling Wendy where Neverland is, Peter says it is the “second start to the right and straight on ‘til morning” (Barrie, p. 12).

Quotation marks around direct quote.

Citation: In brackets before the sentence’s period, you need to have the author’s last name, a comma, and the page from which you took the quote.

When it comes to incorporating quotations, make sure the quote itself flows into the sentence. You do not want it to look like you have plunked a random sentence into the middle of your own. Look for ways to incorporate the quote grammatically.

Example:

Quote: Blueberries are the very best blue food. – Ms. Wasstrom’s Personal Diary, page 45

Bad Incorporation:

Ms. Wasstrom said that “Blueberries are the very best blue food” (p. 45).

*Note: If you have said the author’s name earlier in the sentence you do not need to include it in the bracketed citation.*

Good Incorporation:

While I love blue skittles, my teacher believes that “[blueberries] are the very best blue food” (Wasstrom, p. 45).

These square brackets tell the reader that you have adjusted the quote in some way. In this case, I changed the B from an uppercase to a lowercase letter. If you need to shorten the quote and you cut a portion, you can put “…” between the two remaining parts.