

## **Book of Choice Literary Analysis**

A literary response paper is your chance as the reader to discover elements of a literary work that jump out at you and make a commentary on them. As with your previous literary analysis paper, you will analyze one of the great works of American literature. In this paper, however, I will not guide you regarding the aspect(s) of the author's work that you will analyze. As you read your book, you will choose a topic for analysis. You may analyze the way that the author deals with certain American issues such as religion, capitalism, poverty, etc. You may analyze the finer points of the author's techniques as a fiction writer. You may analyze the author's themes. You may analyze the author's purpose for writing the book and whether he or she accomplishes that goal. No matter what your topic for analysis, you will make a sound argument about the book that is rooted in sturdy evidence from the text.

### ***Part 1: Book report (20 point completion grade upon completion)***

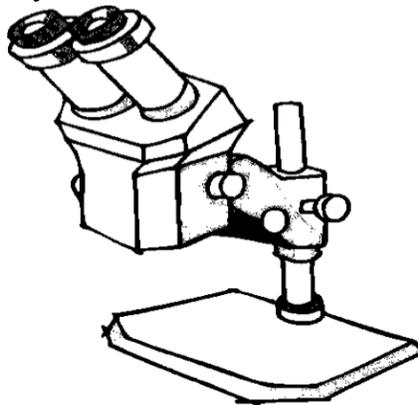
- 250-word minimum
- Gives author's name, date written, and any important background information.
- Describes main characters, setting, important events of the plot, and at least one theme.
- Contains at least five paragraphs, including an intro and a conclusion.
- Is typed, single-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 point
- **Must be typed completely in the document opened from the "Final Paper Project: Google document" assignment in classroom.**

### ***Part 2: Notes (10 point completion grade upon completion)***

- Make plenty of observations throughout the novel about your topic.
- Ask analytical questions, related to your topic, that lead you to consider possible interpretations of the author's work.
- Provide adequate quantity and quality of observations to support your thesis in the paper.
- Written on post-it notes with page numbers (100 overall)

### ***Part 3: Outline (20 point completion grade upon completion)***

- Must contain your thesis about the aspects of the author's work that you have observed.
- Must have Roman numerals representing each paragraph's topic and capital letters representing the examples from the book that you will use in each paragraph. Completed on same Google document as the book report by the deadline.



**Part 4: Literary Analysis (40 points graded on criteria)**

- 750-word minimum
- Contains a clear thesis.
- Contains a proper introduction and conclusion.
- Body paragraphs provide evidence that supports the thesis.
- Main points supported by specific details or direct quotations.
- Evidence is balanced by analysis, at least a 3:2 ratio (“The author shows... The reader is affected... This proves the thesis...”).
- (See *Write For College* p. 269 for ideas)
- Following MLA style, includes parenthetical citations and a works cited page showing the publication information of the novel and any other source that influenced your analysis (See *Write For College* pp. 333-360).
- Utilizes appropriate mechanical and grammatical conventions.
- Typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman, 12 point
- Completed on same Google document as the book report by the deadline.

**Part 5: Oral Presentation (20 points graded on criteria)**

- Intro (3 points) – The beginning must be planned to get the audience’s attention. A poor intro is one that says, “Today I will tell you about...” There is nothing creative or interesting about this type of introduction. There are strategies on pages 278-282 in the *Speech* textbook. Use one of these strategies to insure the points for this requirement.
- 3 main points and details (3 points) – Audiences will not remember every detail that a speaker says in a speech. An effective speech is organized in a way that the audience will remember a few main points. These main points are supported by details, stories and mental pictures, but the main points must be stated in a way that is memorable.
- Conclusion (3 points) – It is not a conclusion to simply stop speaking or to say, “There, I’m done.” A conclusion must bring the speech to a close. See pages 295-298 in the *Speech* textbook for strategies to conclude a speech.
- Eye contact (2 points) – If a speaker does not actually look into the eyes of the audience members, the audience will begin to fall asleep. You will need to rehearse your speech enough times to actually make eye contact with your audience half of the time that you are speaking. Eye contact is not just glancing up from notes; it is looking into people’s eyes as you speak.
- Comfort with speech (3 points) – This comes only with rehearsal. If you rehearse four or five times, you will be a lot more comfortable with the information and the overall order than if you do not rehearse. If you choose not to rehearse your speech, you will not be comfortable with it. Physically a lack of comfort will show. You will probably make mistakes in the order of your points and details. If your speech lacks rehearsal, you will lack comfort, and you will not score well here. For help with rehearsing, see *Speech* pages 203-205.
- Volume (1 point) – Speak loudly enough for all to hear. If you speak down at your paper softly, the audience will miss your speech.
- Timing (1 point) – The target length is 5:00. If the speech lasts between 3:30 and 4:30, you will receive two points. If it lasts between 4:00 and 6:00, you will receive one point. If it is less than 4:00, but longer than 6:00, you will receive no points.
- Enthusiasm (2 points) – This is mandatory for an effective speech. If a speaker doesn’t appear to care, neither will the audience.
- Professionalism (2 points) – This is everything from appearance to bad habits in speaking. Wear nice shirts the days of the speeches. Sweatshirts or t-shirts will cost you a point. This category also includes the use of unprofessional filler words like “um...uh...um” “like...like...like” “but uh...”