

ANALYTICAL ESSAY NOTES

THE PURPOSE OF AN ANALYTICAL ESSAY IS TO _____.

TO ANALYZE IS TO:

1. to _____ into parts or elements; determine the _____ of a work
2. to _____ critically, so as to bring out the essential elements or _____ of _____
3. to examine carefully and _____ so as to _____

AN ANALYTICAL ESSAY:

1. IS A FORM OF _____ WRITING MEANT TO _____
2. _____ AN ISSUE OR PRESENTS AN OPINION THAT IS BASED ON _____ OR SUPPORTED BY _____
3. IS AN _____ OF ANOTHER PIECE OF WRITING, A FILM, AN ISSUE, OR AN IDEA
4. INCLUDES A _____ STATEMENT THAT _____ THE PROMPT AND MUST BE _____ IN YOUR ESSAY.

WHAT AN ANALYTICAL ESSAY IS NOT

1. IT IS _____ OR A RETELLING OF A STORY
2. IT IS _____ OF WHAT A POEM OR WORK MEANS TO YOU
3. IT _____ PERSONAL EXPERIENCES, OPINIONS OR TESTIMONIES TO SUPPORT THE THESIS. ALL SUPPORT IS FACTUAL OR IS TEXT EVIDENCE.

WHAT DO ANALYTICAL ESSAYS ASK YOU TO DO?

OFTENTIMES, ANALYTICAL ESSAY PROMPTS WILL ASK YOU TO USE TEXT EVIDENCE TO:

- ◆ **COMPARE AND CONTRAST** ELEMENTS IN A PIECE OF LITERATURE
- ◆ **INTERPRET** A PORTION OF A SELECTION
- ◆ **EVALUATE** A PIECE OF LITERATURE
- ◆ ANALYZE AN **AUTHOR'S VIEW** ON A SUBJECT
- ◆ ANALYZE **AUTHOR'S PURPOSE**
- ◆ ANALYZE **AUTHOR'S CRAFT** OR STYLISTIC ELEMENTS AND THEIR EFFECTS
- ◆ ANALYZE THE AUTHOR'S USE OF **RHETORICAL DEVICES** TO ACHIEVE THEIR PURPOSE
- ◆ ANALYZE AUTHOR'S **TONE AND DICTION**

REMEMBER THE APeE STRATEGY

- THE **APeE STRATEGY** THAT WE USE FOR OPEN-ENDED RESPONSE QUESTIONS CAN BE APPLIED WHEN STRUCTURING THE _____ OF YOUR ANALYTICAL ESSAY.
- **ASSERTION** – CONNECTS THE PROOF TO THE THESIS STATEMENT AND PROVIDES A TOPIC SENTENCE FOR YOUR BODY PARAGRAPH.
- **PROOF** – TEXT EVIDENCE USED TO SUPPORT YOUR THESIS (QUOTES)
- **EXPLAIN** – EXPLAIN HOW THE QUOTES/EVIDENCE SUPPORTS YOUR THESIS
- **ELABORATE** – PROVIDE AN ANALYSIS THAT BRINGS IT ALL TOGETHER

STRUCTURE OF AN ANALYTICAL ESSAY

1. _____ -
_____: ENGAGES THE READER.
_____: MOVES INTO YOUR THESIS STATEMENT (NARROWS DOWN)
_____: INTRODUCES THE WORK YOU WILL ANALYZE (TITLE, AUTHOR, GENRE)
(ASSERTION) INCLUDES YOUR **THESIS STATEMENT** AT THE END OF THE PARAGRAPH. BE SURE YOUR THESIS ANSWERS THE PROMPT.
2. _____ - **(APeE)** INCLUDES YOUR **FIRST EXAMPLE OF TEXT EVIDENCE** TO SUPPORT YOUR THESIS. BE SURE TO PLACE YOUR TEXT EVIDENCE IN **QUOTATION MARKS** AND **EXPLAIN** HOW THIS EXAMPLE AND YOUR ANALYSIS OF IT HELPS TO PROVE YOUR THESIS.
3. _____ - **(APeE)** THIS INCLUDES YOUR **SECOND EXAMPLE OF TEXT EVIDENCE** TO SUPPORT YOUR THESIS. BE SURE TO PLACE YOUR TEXT EVIDENCE IN QUOTATION MARKS AND EXPLAIN HOW YOUR ANALYSIS OF IT HELPS TO SUPPORT YOUR THESIS. STRENGTHEN YOUR ARGUMENT.
4. _____ - **(So What?)** THIS IS THE **"SO WHAT?"** SECTION OF YOUR ESSAY. DON'T RESTATE WHAT YOU'VE ALREADY SAID, BUT LEAVE THE READER WITH A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING. USE WHAT YOU'VE STATED IN YOUR THESIS IN A MORE UNIVERSAL CONTEXT (THE BIG PICTURE).

TIPS FOR ANALYTICAL WRITING

- ◆ **USE FACTS AND TEXT EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT YOUR THESIS.**
- ◆ **PLACE YOUR TEXT EVIDENCE IN QUOTATION MARKS.**
- ◆ **PROVIDE LINE NUMBERS WHEN ANALYZING POETRY.**
- ◆ **WRITE WITH AUTHORITY.**
- ◆ **AVOID PERSONAL PRONOUNS.**
- ◆ **PROVIDE A THOROUGH ANALYSIS AND EXPLANATION.**
- ◆ **BE SURE TO HAVE A CLEAR, SPECIFIC THESIS AND PROVE IT.**