

# Literary Analysis Paragraph Checklist

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## 1. ¶TS/Claims:

- Have you crafted a topic sentence that offers an arguable (C→E) claim in response to the prompt?
- Is the language of the ¶TS specific and precise?
- Does the ¶TS employ a compelling main verb?
- Does the final sentence of the paragraph reframe/restate in slightly different language the claim offered in the ¶TS?

## 2. Textual Evidence:

- Do your quotations directly support the claim you have offered in your topic sentence?
- Have you whittled your quotations down to only the words you need to support your claim?
- Have you embedded your textual evidence into your own sentences in accordance with grammatical conventions?
- Have you provided sufficient narrative context in framing your quotations to prevent your audience from wondering “when did that happen?”

## 3. Reasoning:

- Does the paragraph provide language that reveals meaning by explaining the ways in which the evidence supports the central claim?
- Are the supporting arguments arranged in emphatic order, from weakest point to strongest point?
- Does the reasoning include the appropriate use of relevant literary terms?
- Have you carefully explained the effects of the examples of literary terms?
- Does your reasoning include observations or statements that
  - extend your analyses into reflections on the culture or
  - provide empathetic comments related to character or environment?

## 4. Style:

- Is the analysis presented in the present tense?
- Is the analysis presented from a third person point of view?
- Have you avoided writing about yourself?
- Have you avoided writing about your writing, carefully avoiding constructions such as: “In this quotation...” and “This evidence proves that...”.
- Have you employed transition words between points to guide your audience along?