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**Level: Master 01.**

**HOW TO DO A LITERARY ANALYSIS ESSAY**

**Introduction**: The purpose of giving the students a literary analysis essay is to check their ability to examine, analyse and evaluate a work of art. In writing a literary analysis essay, one tries to convince the potential readers that he has supported the issue he has raised and developed. To achieve this, some principles are required:

* The essay must cover the topic one is writing about.
* The essay must have a central idea that governs its development.
* The essay must be organized so that every part contributes something to the reader’s understanding of the central idea.

**1-HOW TO START A LITERARY ANALYSIS?**

* 1. **Choose a Topic**: The topic contains the central idea of the essay. For example:
* Darkness and Light in Ann Caston’s Narrative Poem ‘Anatomy’.
* ‘The Great Catsby’, an Emotional Journey.
* Chaos and Structure in ‘Paradise Lost’ and ‘A Clockwork Orange’.

Therefore, the topic can be about a theme, a character, a literary device, setting, time,..

* 1. **Focus the Topic**: In taking into consideration the element being chosen, try to:
* Brainstorm the different aspects of the element.
* Narrow down the selection.
* Come up with a question to answer. That is formulate a thesis statement. And here you can answer some questions: what do you explore about the topic? Why does it stand out to you?.

**1.3.Gather textual evidence**: it can be through quotations, summaries or paraphrases.

**1.4. Analyse**: It is important to distinguish between descriptive writing and analytical writing. Descriptive writing answers the ‘who’, ‘what’, ‘where’ questions. Analytical writing, however, answers the ‘why’ and ‘how’ questions.

**2.WRITING A SUCCESSFUL LITERARY ESSAY**

**2.1.Introduction**: The introduction of the essay should capture the interest of the reader. A startling statement or a provocative question are suggested. One may include background information relevant to the thesis and necessary for the reader to understand the position one is taking. In addition, one needs to include the title of the work of literature and name the author.

**2.2.Body**: In this section, one presents the paragraphs that support the thesis statement. Good literary analysis essays contain an explanation of one’s ideas and evidence from the text . - Each paragraph should contain a topic sentence. The topic sentence must relate the details of the paragraph to thesis statement.

The substance of each developmental paragraph will be explanations, summaries, paraphrases, direct quotations and specific details.

**3.Conclusion:** The conclusion synthesizes the elements of the analysed text; restate the thesis in different words, summarize the points you have made and comment about the literary work one is analysing. The importance of the literary essay should be illustrated in the conclusion and demonstrate that one has defended one’s literary argument.

**References**

* <https://papersowl.com/blog/write-literary-eaasy>.
* <https://bucks.edu/media/bcccmedialibrary/pdf/HOWTOWRITEALITERARYANALYSISESSAY810.15.001.pdf>