

Essay Outline

In your analysis, divide the text you are writing about into thirds--beginning, middle, end. Discuss the strategies of each section which may include the devices used in those sections to achieve the purpose.

I. Introduction: ANSWER THE PROMPT

(all of the following can be combined into one sentence, or spread out through more).

- A. Name of author, [optional: a phrase describing author], genre, and title of work and date in parenthesis (additional publishing information in parentheses or note) a rhetorically accurate verb (such as “assert,” “argue,” “suggest,” “imply,” “claim,” etc.); and a **THAT** clause containing the major assertion (thesis statement) of the work.
- B. An explanation of how the author develops and/or supports the thesis, usually in chronological order.
- C. A statement of the author’s apparent purpose followed by and “in order” phrase.

II. Body Paragraph:

- A. topic sentence/transition: “(author last name) begins with/by...(make your claim about what strategy you see working address the purpose/prompt)”
- B. Specific example to support idea: provide EXPLICIT textual support woven into your comments to support your claim. Thoroughly discuss all strategies used in the beginning section, supporting with text. Should be at least two or more complex, stylistic sentences.
- C. Discussion of how example supports idea: Connect the strategy back to your main claim/thesis/ the purpose.

III. body paragraph

- D. topic sentence/transition: “After... the author moves to...” “Building off the strategy he/she used to begin, he/she ...” Connect an idea from the last sentence of the previous paragraph to the first sentence of this paragraph showing how the strategies build upon each other.
- E. provide EXPLICIT textual support woven into your comments to support your claim. Thoroughly discuss all strategies used in the middle section, supporting with text. Should be at least two or more complex, stylistic sentences.

F. Discussion of how example supports idea: Connect the strategy back to your main claim/thesis/ the purpose.

IV. Last body paragraph

G. Topic sentence/transition: “to close the essay/speech, (author)...” “Concluding the argument he/she ...” Connect an idea from the last sentence of the previous paragraph to the first sentence of this paragraph showing how the strategies build upon each other.

H. provide EXPLICIT textual support woven into your comments to support your claim. Thoroughly discuss all strategies used in the middle section, supporting with text. Should be at least two or more complex, stylistic sentences.

I. Discussion of how example supports idea: Connect the strategy back to your main claim/thesis/ the purpose.

V. Conclusion

A. Restatement of thesis (Try not to begin your conclusion paragraph with “In conclusion).

B. Reflection on examples and main ideas in body paragraphs

C. Closing thought --closing out the main purpose of the text begin analyzed.