

AP English Literature – Analytical Literature Review

<p>Title: make inferences about the text based upon the title</p>	<p>Personal reaction:</p>
<p>Biography – what do you know about the author that gives information about the text, theme, and its significance?</p>	<p>Historical context – what do you know about the author’s time (political, social, philosophical) that is relevant to the text and its theme?</p>
<p>Plot and Structure- Complete a plot diagram – illustrated is a more complete visual to help you remember.</p>	<p>Point of view/Perspective - What is the point of view? Who is the narrator and what is his/her role/motivation/purpose? How do point of view and perspective inform theme?</p>

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<p>Inciting Incident – what character and/or events cause the conflict? How does the inciting incident inform theme?</p>	<p>Internal Conflict – whom and why? How is conflict resolved? How does conflict inform theme?</p>	<p>External Conflict- which types? Between whom/what? Why? How does conflict inform theme?</p>
<p>Style and Structure – how does the author arrange plot, diction, syntax?</p>	<p>Symbolism - abstract or concrete? What are they? How does symbolism inform theme?</p>	<p>Tone – How is the author’s and/or speaker’s attitude evident in the text?</p>

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Characterization – how and what type – flat/round? Static/dynamic? Stock? Protagonist/Antagonist/Foil? Motivation? Attitudes? Analysis of major characters. How does characterization inform theme?

Setting – location, region, country, historical period – how does setting influence characterization? How does setting influence theme?

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Figurative language and literary devices - Which ones do you find? What do they mean? How does the meaning relate to the theme?

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Diction – what type(s)? Are there differences between narrator and dialogue? What conclusions can you draw about character, style, and theme?

Syntax - What arrangement, type, and style of sentence structure? Are there differences between narrator and dialogue? What conclusions can you draw about character, style, and theme?

Theme(s) – what is the controlling idea/central insight/unifying generalization? Is it stated or implied? What textual evidence do you use for support? Write a thematic statement that represents the depth of your analysis – delve below the surface!

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Universal application – how is the theme relevant to life/the human condition beyond the pages of the text? Answer “so what?” for the theme.

Central Purpose - How is the central purpose achieved – think about the theme and its “so what?” universal application.

Central Purpose - What is the significance of the central purpose?

Personal evaluation –