# Literary Analysis Writing Rubric

| | | Points |
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| **6** | **SCORE 6** - A **6** paper is **superior**. It does all or most of the following characteristics.<br>❑ Focuses and develops ideas in a sustained and compelling manner, showing creativity and insight.<br>❑ Makes clear, and convincing defendable inferential connections to the text with important and relevant evidence. Commentary shows a deep understanding of the piece of literature as a whole.<br>❑ Effectively organizes ideas in a clear, logical, detailed, and coherent manner using appropriate structures to enhance the central idea.<br>❑ Demonstrates involvement with the text and speaks purposefully to the audience in an appropriate, individualistic, and engaging manner.<br>❑ Uses multiple sentence structures and word choices effectively and with a sense of control for stylistic effect.<br>❑ Commits few, if any, errors in Standard English rules for grammar, usage, and mechanics. | |
| **5** | **SCORE 5** - A **5** paper is **distinctly above average**. It does all or most of the following characteristics.<br>❑ Focuses and develops ideas in an effective and detailed manner.<br>❑ Makes clear, defendable inferential connections to the text with important and relevant evidence. Commentary is provided to explain the connections to the whole piece of literature.<br>❑ Organizes ideas clearly and coherently using structures appropriate to purposes.<br>❑ Communicates a sense of commitment to the topic and to the audience's involvement.<br>❑ Uses varied sentence structure and word choice effectively.<br>❑ Commits few errors in Standard English grammar, usage, and mechanics. | |
| **4** | **SCORE 4** - A **4** paper is **adequate**. It exhibits all or most of the following characteristics.<br>❑ Adequately focuses and develops ideas with detail.<br>❑ Defends inferential connections with support and clarity, using relevant evidence. Commentary explains inferential connections.<br>❑ Organizes ideas in a satisfactory manner with adequate coherence and logic.<br>❑ Uses a voice that is appropriate to audience and purpose.<br>❑ Uses a variety of sentence structures and word choice, but occasionally displays some wordiness or ineffective diction; sentences may be predictable.<br>❑ Commits some errors in Standard English grammar, usage, and mechanics that do not impede meaning; indicates basic understanding of conventions. | |
| **3** | **SCORE 3** - A **3** paper is **inadequate**. It is clearly flawed in some or all of the following ways.<br>❑ Focuses, but may not display mature or well-developed content.<br>❑ Attempts inferential claims but position is unclear and/or evidence is brief, tangential or based solely on personal opinion. Commentary may be present but does not always connect to the claim or evidence.<br>❑ Displays minimal organization; contains irrelevancies, digresses, rambles, or lacks logic.<br>❑ Lacks sincerity of purpose in the writer's attempt to involve the audience appropriately.<br>❑ Uses sentence structure and word choice that are somewhat limited, simplistic, mundane, or otherwise inappropriate.<br>❑ Contains flaws in Standard English rules of grammar, usage, and mechanics that do not impede meaning; indicates some consistent misunderstanding of the conventions. | |
| **2** | **SCORE 2** - A **2** paper is **very weak**. It reveals serious and persistent problems in communications. It compounds the weaknesses of the 3 paper in some or all of the following ways.<br>❑ Lacks focus and development; may list items with little or no supporting detail.<br>❑ Inferential claim is unclear or absent; evidence is vague or missing. Commentary may be provided but does not connect to claims or evidence.<br>❑ Contains serious flaws in structure, organization and coherence.<br>❑ Attempts, but fails in the writer's attempt to involve the audience appropriately.<br>❑ Uses sentence structure and word choices that are highly limited, simplistic, or otherwise inappropriate.<br>❑ Displays consistent violations in Standard English rules of grammar, usage, and mechanics that impede understanding. | |
| **1** | **SCORE 1** - A **1** paper is **extremely weak**. It has few redeeming qualities. It at least mentions the topic, but generally fails to communicate with the reader. It does some or all of the following.<br>❑ Simply repeats the topic or fails to provide adequate development.<br>❑ Fails to establish inferential claims; evidence is not apparent. Commentary is absent.<br>❑ Shows almost no structure, organization, or coherence.<br>❑ Does not address the audience appropriately.<br>❑ Uses limited or immature sentence structure and word choice.<br>❑ Overwhelms the reader with serious violations of Standard English rules grammar, usage, and mechanics. | |

**Total Points** _____

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