

Character Analysis Step-by-Step Outline

I. Introduction

- a. **Hook** the reader into your paper
- b. Introduce the **selection and author**
- c. Brief plot summary
- d. Introduce the **character**
- e. **THESIS:** one-sentence opinion statement that your ENTIRE paper will examine. State the character you will analyze and three distinct and specific points you will examine in your paper.

Write the Body Paragraphs to convince the reader of your opinion/argument

II. Body Paragraph #1 topic_____

- a. **CLAIM/Topic Sentence that directly relates to the THESIS**
- b. **Evidence with citation-** Direct or Indirect Quote with description from the text (use at least one to two specific references to the text in each body paragraph)
- c. **Analysis/Explanation** - How does your evidence/quote clearly relate to your topic and prove your claim? How does this example from the text show characterization or character development?
- d. **Repeat** the above steps if needed to support your claim

III. Body Paragraph #2 topic_____

- a. **CLAIM/Topic Sentence that directly relates to the THESIS**
- b. **Evidence with citation-** Direct or Indirect Quote with description from the text (use at least one to two specific references to the text in each body paragraph)
- c. **Analysis/Explanation** - How does your evidence/quote clearly relate to your topic and prove your claim? How does this example from the text show characterization or character development?
- d. **Repeat** the above steps if needed to support your claim

IV. Body Paragraph #3 topic_____

- a. **CLAIM/Topic Sentence that directly relates to the THESIS**

b. Evidence with citation- Direct or Indirect Quote with description from the text (use at least one to two specific references to the text in each body paragraph)

c. Analysis/Explanation - How does your evidence/quote clearly relate to your topic and prove your claim? How does this example from the text show characterization or character development?

d. Repeat the above steps if needed to support your claim

V. Conclusion (choose at least one of these) What your conclusion should do:

a. **Answer the question "So What?"** Explain why this analysis is important, meaningful, or useful.

b. **Summarize** how the points you made and the support and examples you used fit together.

c. Give your reader **something to think about**; connect your analysis to a **global issue**.

d. **Echo the introduction** by bringing the reader full circle. If you begin by describing a scenario, end with the same scenario to illustrate that your essay was helpful in creating a new understanding.

e. **Explain** how the points discussed in the paper contributed to the character's growth or development.

f. **Predict** how the character's future might be different because of the growth or development he/she experienced within the selection.