

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PERIOD: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## The Title & Conclusion of a Literary Analysis & Remembering Your Audience (in General)

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### THE TITLE

It is essential that you give your essay a title that is descriptive of the approach you are taking in your paper. Just as you did in your introductory paragraph, try to get the reader's attention. Using only the title of the literary work(s) you are examining is unsatisfactory. The titles that follow are appropriate for the previous examples that we have looked at:

#### EXAMPLES:

- (1) Robert Browning's Duke: A Portrayal of a Sinister Man
  - (2) Theme in "The Secret Lion": The Struggle of Adolescence
  - (3) Conflicts in Nature: Man is not God
  - (4) The A & P as a State of Mind
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### THE CONCLUSION

Your literary analysis essay should have a concluding paragraph that gives your essay a sense of completeness and lets your readers know that they have come to the end of your paper. Your concluding paragraph might restate the thesis in different words, summarize the main points you have made, and/or make a relevant comment about the literary work(s) you are analyzing but from a different perspective. Do not introduce a new topic in your conclusion. Below is the concluding paragraph from the same essay that we looked at the introductory paragraph about Browning's poem "My Last Duchess" and the evil, murderous Duke.

#### EXAMPLE:

If the Duke has any redeeming qualities, they fail to appear in the poem.

#### CONCLUSION

Browning's emphasis on the Duke's traits of arrogance, jealousy, and materialism make it apparent that anyone who might have known the Duke personally would have based his opinion of him on these three personality "flaws." Ultimately, the reader's opinion of the Duke is not a favorable one, and it is clear that Browning intended that the reader feel this way.

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### YOUR AUDIENCE

Consider the reader for whom you are writing your essay. Imagine you are writing for not only your teacher but also other individuals who are at least at the same learning level as you. They may have read the assigned work(s) just as you have, but perhaps they have not thought about it in exactly the same way. In other words, it is not necessary to "retell" the work of literature in any way. Rather, it is your role to be the explainer or interpreter of the work—to tell what certain elements of the work mean in relation to your central idea (thesis).

When you make references to the text of the short story, poem, or play, you are doing so to merely remind your audience of something they may already know. The principle emphasis of your essay is to draw conclusions and develop arguments. Be sure to avoid plot summary.

## The Title & Conclusion of the Literary Analysis (for Our Class)

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### THE TITLE

- (1) Descriptive of your approach
- (2) Get the reader's attention
- (3) Not merely the title(s) of your literary work(s)

Construct at least 2 potential titles for your literary analysis below:

- (1) \_\_\_\_\_
  - (2) \_\_\_\_\_
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### THE CONCLUSION:

- (1) Gives a sense of completeness and lets readers know they've come to the end
- (2) May restate your thesis in different words
- (3) Might summarize the main points you have made
- (4) Could make a relevant comment about the literary work(s) you are analyzing in a different perspective
- (5) Not introducing a new topic

Answer the following questions to consider potential ways to conclude your literary analysis:

- 1.) How could you restate your thesis in different words?

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- 2.) What are some of the main points of your essays that you could mention?

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| • _____ | • _____ |
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- 3.) What other relevant comments can you make about your literary work(s) from a different perspective?

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In your English notebook, see if you can combine your answers into a rough draft of a conclusion.