

2.7b Option 2: Outline with a Technical Element(s) Focus

Review the information below before completing the table that follows.

Critical Essays:

The critical response involves critically analyzing a short story and your chosen novel in relation to an essential question. You will go through the writing process of choosing your texts and topic, brainstorming specific evidence to support your thesis and planning; you will recruit a peer to review your outline and rough draft and then you will make revisions before submitting your polished essay.

Critical essays require you to discuss one or more technical elements (e.g., the topic of the text; the context; setting; structure; style; tone; point of view; or theme). You are not expected to discuss each element; you may still receive an adequate mark if you only discuss one element so long as it has been well explained and well supported.

Introductory Paragraph: **Introduce**

- Introduce the topic. Use a quotation from the texts or a brief anecdote that is related to the topic that captures the reader's attention.
- Introduce the texts you will discuss. Include the author. Use proper formatting for text titles.
- In a single thesis statement, answer the Essential Question you've chosen, outlining which textual element(s) support its development (for example, the topic of the text; the context; setting; structure; style; tone; point of view; or theme).
- It should be clear what position you intend to support in your essay and you should identify 3 points that you will defend in your essay.
- Your thesis must explain the development of the EQ through a minimum of one textual element.

Body Paragraph 1: **Point One**

- State the topic sentence. Be sure it relates to the thesis statement and clearly focuses on the first key point introduced in your thesis.
- Introduce your first quotation for this point. You will want a minimum of 2 quotations.
- Develop commentary (an explanation) for your supporting evidence from the text, always showing how the evidence connects to your topic and proves your thesis. Remember, you are showing how the element develops the Essential Question.
- Summarize, connecting your topic to the thesis.

Body Paragraph 2: **Point Two**

- State the topic sentence. Be sure it relates to the thesis statement and clearly focuses on the second key point in your thesis.
- Introduce your first quotation for this point. You will want a minimum of 2 quotations.
- Develop commentary (an explanation) for your supporting evidence from the text, always showing how the evidence connects to your topic and proves your thesis. Remember, you are showing how the element develops the EQ.
- Summarize, connecting your topic to the thesis.

Body Paragraph 3: **Point Three**

- State the topic sentence. Be sure it relates to the thesis statement and clearly focuses on the third key point in your thesis.
- Introduce your first quotation for this point. You will want a minimum of 2 quotations.
- Develop commentary (an explanation) for your supporting evidence from the text, always showing how the evidence connects to your topic and proves your thesis. Remember, you are showing how the element develops the EQ
- Summarize, connecting your topic to the thesis.

Concluding Paragraph: **Conclude**

- Restate your thesis statement in different words, confirming your thesis has been proven.
- Reconnect with your introductory paragraph:
- How has the EQ been developed?
- How does the topic relate to people in society?
- Include final words to leave the reader thinking: a quotation, an anecdote, or a strong statement or question.

Integrating Quotations from a Literary Text into a Literary Analysis Paper

As you choose quotations for a literary analysis, remember the purpose of quoting. The Writing Center at the University of Wisconsin—Madison reminds writers to develop a paper that is

an argument about what the author of the text is doing--how the text "works." You use quotations to support this argument. This involves selecting, presenting, and discussing material from the text in order to "prove" your point--to make your case--in much the same way a lawyer brings evidence before a jury.

Quoting for any other purpose is counterproductive. Don't quote to "tell the story" or otherwise convey basic information about the text...assume the reader knows the text. And don't quote just for the sake of quoting or just to fill up space. Don't make the reader jump up and shout "Irrelevant!"

Source: PDF handout located at <https://writing.wisc.edu/handbook/assignments/quoliterature>

2.7 Short Story CRT Outline–Technical Elements Focus

Bullet-point notes are fine.

Introductory Paragraph: Introduce	
Introduce the topic. Use a quotation from the text or a brief anecdote that is related to the topic, that captures the reader's attention.	
Introduce the texts you will discuss. Include the author.	
In a single thesis statement, answer the Essential Question you've chosen, outlining which element(s) support its development. Use keywords from the essay topic in the phrasing of your thesis statement. <i>(If you haven't yet received approval for your thesis, STOP here and wait!)</i>	

Body Paragraph 1: Point One	
State the topic sentence. Be sure it relates to the thesis statement and clearly focuses on the first key point introduced in your thesis.	
Provide two specific examples (quotation(s) which best represents the element), always showing how the evidence proves the thesis.	1.
	2.
Explain your supporting evidence; how does it connect to your thesis?	1.
	2.
Summarize, connecting your topic to the thesis.	

Body Paragraph 2: Point Two	
State the topic sentence. Be sure it relates to the thesis statement and clearly focuses on the <i>second key point</i> in your thesis.	
Provide two specific examples (quotation which best represents the element), always showing how the evidence proves the thesis.	1.
	2.
Explain your supporting evidence; how does it connect to your thesis?	1.
	2.
Summarize, connecting your topic to the thesis.	

Body Paragraph 3: Point Three	
State the topic sentence. Be sure it relates to the thesis statement and clearly focuses on the <i>third key point</i> in your thesis.	
Provide two specific examples (quotation which best represents the element), always showing how the evidence proves the thesis.	1.
	2.
Explain your supporting evidence; how does it connect to your thesis?	1.
	2.
Summarize, connecting your topic to the thesis.	

Concluding Paragraph: Conclude	
Restate your thesis statement in different words, confirming your thesis has been proven.	
Reconnect with your introductory paragraph: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How has the EQ been developed? • How does the topic relate to people in society? 	
Include final words to leave the reader thinking: a quotation, an anecdote, or a strong statement or question.	