

FIRST DRAFT CHECK—LITERARY ANALYSIS

Draft Reviewer _____

Essay Writer _____

Directions: Answer the questions as specifically as you can. Make comments on the draft itself. Provide suggestions on content and style to help the writer improve the essay in subsequent drafts. Give your honest opinion, but also be tactful and kind.

INTRODUCTION AND THESIS

Does the writer begin with a general introduction that frames the essay?	Yes	No
Does the writer develop the introduction with a brief summary or general discussion of the work?	Yes	No
Does the writer develop the introduction with a brief discussion of the theme?	Yes	No

- Make a specific comment on what you need to do to improve the introduction.

- Underline the thesis statement on the essay:

Does the thesis reference the specific work of literature?	Yes	No
Does the thesis include a method of development (devices)?	Yes	No
Does the thesis include a correctly stated theme (generalization, subject/predicate, central idea)?	Yes	No
Does the theme account for the meaning of the entire work and not just part of it?	Yes	No

- Make a specific comment what you need to do to improve the introduction.

PARAGRAPHS

Underline the topic sentence of each paragraph, put an asterisk in the margin next to each piece of evidence in a paragraph, put a star next to each bit of explanation, circle each transitional word/expression.

PARAGRAPH #

	1		2		3		4		5	
Does the writer begin the body paragraph with a topic sentence?	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Does the writer use quotations to support the topic sentence?	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Does the writer integrate quotations correctly and use signal phrases to introduce quotes?	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Does the writer document line (poetry) or page (fiction) numbers?	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Does the writer explain the evidence and tie it back to the thesis with analysis?	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Does the writer use transitions between points within the paragraph?	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Does the writer use transitions between paragraphs?	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No

Make a specific comment about what the writer might do to improve EACH paragraph of analysis. Be as specific as possible.

ORGANIZATION: Take a look at the big picture of the essay. Make a topic outline that indicates the main point of each paragraph.

Does the essay flow smoothly and logically from one paragraph to another?	Yes	No
Does the essay move more like an explication than an analysis?	Yes	No

Make a comment on how you could improve the organization OR explain why this pattern works.