

Short Analysis Paper		
Thesis / Claims	Essay includes a clear claim / thesis statement that is focused, specific, complex, relevant, and debatable. Claims are not purely subjective and/or evaluative statements (“I liked this book” or “This book is bad/good/important because...”) but are instead argumentative. Essay’s claim is developed from elements in the text and provides a reading that is not obvious to a more casual reader (the claim should challenge readers to view the original text in a new way).	____ / 5
Coherence and Logic	<p>Essay is organized clearly, along either logical or chronological lines. Motivated transitions carry the audience through the essay’s argument. Main argument is easily discernible and is supported by relevant details throughout the body of the essay. Connections between ideas are explicit and sophisticated, with an expressed rationale for how they fit together – essay structure is more sophisticated than “my first piece of evidence is... my second piece of evidence is...” etc.</p> <p>Essay includes an introduction which succinctly summarizes the main text, and contextualizes, builds up to, and states the thesis. Essay includes conclusion which does more than simply restate the thesis, and instead addresses the broader significance of what the essay has proven, answering the question, “so what?” with regard to the rest of the essay.</p>	____ / 6
Evidence and Analysis	The essay cites relevant elements from the text and critically engages directly with said material. The essay and argument are “text-based” and derives and bases its claims from careful, deliberate, and sustained engagements with the source text(s). Essay provides specific quotations, and relevant context for each quotation.	____ / 6
Clarity and Style	The prose is clear and precise, and the diction varied and appropriate. As a whole, the essay is coherent and easy to read. Essay avoids convoluted wording and inflated diction, and is free of misspellings, sentence fragments, run-ons, comma splices, etc.	____ / 5
Formatting and Citation	Essay is type-written in double-spaced twelve-point standard font, with 1-inch margins all around. Essay includes a heading (with your name), page numbers, and title. Sources are cited using the latest MLA guidelines, including a separate Works Cited page. <sup>1</sup>	____ / 3
		____ / 25

<sup>1</sup> The best resources for how to cite resources in MLA 8 are still the Purdue Online Writing Lab ([Purdue OWL](http://PurdueOWL.com)) and [www.citationmachine.net](http://www.citationmachine.net).