

Quality Checklist: Before You Submit a Literary Analysis Essay

Before submitting your literary analysis essay, review this checklist to ensure quality and completeness. Taking time to self-check can make the difference between a good essay and an excellent one.

Content Quality

- **Thesis statement is clear, specific, and arguable** - Avoid vague statements like "This poem is interesting"
- **Every body paragraph supports the thesis** - Each paragraph should advance your main argument
- **Evidence from the text backs up every claim** - Use specific quotes and examples
- **Analysis explains HOW the evidence proves the point** - Don't just identify devices; explain their effect
- **Examples are well-chosen and relevant** - Select quotes that truly illustrate your point
- **Conclusion restates thesis and synthesizes key points** - Go beyond simple repetition

Structure and Organization

- **Introduction hooks the reader and presents context** - Start strong with an engaging opening
- **Paragraphs follow logical order** - Ideas should build on each other naturally
- **Transitions connect ideas smoothly** - Help readers follow your reasoning
- **Each paragraph has one main focus** - Avoid trying to cover too much in a single paragraph

Technical Execution

- **Quotes are integrated properly with citations** - Follow MLA, APA, or required format consistently
- **Grammar and spelling are error-free** - Proofread carefully or use tools to help
- **Formatting follows assignment guidelines** - Check margins, spacing, font requirements
- **Word count meets requirements** - Stay within assigned length parameters

my perfect words