

Senior English: Mr. Hirsch
Writing Skill Grading Form: Literary Analysis

Focus/Thesis: A thoughtful and/or debatable argument or idea that connects all the parts and is clearly advanced throughout the writing.

☐ Clearly answers the question.

☐ Thesis is debatable and interpretive.

☐ Argument is clear and specific.

☐ Thesis is developed throughout the paper.

Evidence: Arguments are elegantly connected to quotes and examples in a persuasive manner focused on interpretation rather than summary or fact.

☐ There is adequate and varied textual examples.

☐ Interpretations are backed up with proof.

☐ Evidence is well introduced and integrated well.

☐ Textual examples are the best choices for the claims.

Analysis/Thinking: Original and substantive conclusions are drawn at the intersection of evidence and argument/idea. The arguments/ideas are grounded in evidence and thoroughly and thoughtfully decoded and explored.

☐ Analysis of evidence is focused on significant meaning (not plot).

☐ Analysis is substantial and complex.

☐ Thesis is developed through analysis.

☐ Analysis is original and insightful.

Structure/Organization: The structure of the writing supports the focus through voice (word choice and syntax), sentences, and paragraphs.

☐ Introduction and conclusion function well.

☐ Voice is natural and authentic.

☐ Paragraphs and transitions function well.

☐ Ideas develop in each successive paragraph.

Mechanics/Grammar: Proper conventions are observed. Citations, spelling, format (including title) and grammar are correctly employed.

☐ Mechanics are beyond reproach

☐ Some mechanical issues

☐ No more than two very minor errors

☐ Mechanics are problematic