

Literature Analysis Guide

Title of Book: _____

Author: _____

Year of publication: _____

Genre

What type of story is it? _____

Some types of genres are: Historical fiction, fairy tale, fantasy, legend, myth, realistic fiction, comedy, tragedy, adventure, mystery, romance, satire, allegory

Setting

When and where does the story take place?

Characterization

Who are the main characters? What are their roles? i.e. mother, son, priest, cook

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A) Describe each main character's personality and character traits. Do they have any outstanding virtues or vices? Give evidence from the story.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

B) Does the main character have a fatal flaw? If so, describe it and give an example. What are some of the consequences that result from his actions/behavior because of his/her fatal flaw?

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C) Does character development (growth in virtue or wisdom, maturation) take place during the story? Give evidence and examples.

D) Who is your favorite character and why?

E) Can you especially relate to any of the characters? Which one and why?

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Plot

Briefly describe the overall plot.

Conflict

What is the main conflict? Man vs. man, man vs. self, man vs. nature, or man vs. God?

Describe the conflict.

Climax and Resolution

A) What events lead to the climax?

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B) Describe what happens at the climax.

C) What is the resolution?

E) Is there a lesson learned? If so, what is it?

Theme

What is the main theme of the book? _____

Are there any other themes or sub-themes? What are they?

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Literary Devices

Does the author use any of the following? If so, cite an example from the book.

Alliteration _____

Metaphor/Simile _____

Symbolism _____

Personification/anthromorphism _____

Foreshadowing _____

Irony _____

Imagery/sensory detail _____

Allusion _____

Repetition _____

Compare and Contrast

Is the book similar to any other books you have read? How is it similar? How is it different?

Recommendation

Would you recommend this book to your siblings or friends? Why or why not?
