

# Literary Analysis Outline

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Hour \_\_\_\_\_

Using your visual organizer, complete this "draft outline" for your essay. Be sure to fill in all spaces using complete sentences. This will serve as the rough draft of your essay.

## Tips to remember while drafting:

- ◇ Use the literary present tense
- ◇ Avoid using 1st and 2nd person pronouns (you, I, me, we, etc.)
- ◇ Use transition statements to help move from one idea to the next

## INTRODUCTION

Hook: Everyone loves a superhero. Whether it is Batman, Superman, or Wolverine, these epic characters win over audiences with their heroic traits.

Transition sentence(s)—be sure to include author and title of the work here:

One such hero emerges in Homer's epic *The Odyssey*. In this story, Odysseus ~~one~~ plays the role of an ancient superhero.

\*must be a claim you can prove

Thesis: Odysseus' intelligence and loyalty <sup>are the traits that</sup> allow him to be a successful leader and hero.

① examples of intelligence  
② examples of loyalty

Topic Sentence:

There are many situations throughout the story when Odysseus must use his wits to defeat an enemy.

Evidence—remember to explain how each example connects to your thesis!

- 1) Odysseus outsmarts Polyphemus, the giant cannibal, by escaping his cave riding under the cyclops' sheep <sup>(905-907)</sup>.  
Odysseus and his men could not have defeated him through strength alone.
- 2) Odysseus also uses his intelligence when he obeys Teiresias' warning about not eating Lord Helios' cattle (915). He realizes that, although he's starving, obeying the gods is essential for survival.
- 3) Finally, Odysseus is able to trick the suitors who threaten his home in Ithaca. Homer writes, "Odysseus, still in his beggar's clothes, asks to try the bow" (934). Because he is disguised, the suitors are deceived and defeated.

\*\*Is there a parenthetical citation with a page number for each of your three examples?\*

Closing Sentence—wrap up your point/help transition to next paragraph:

In all of those situations Odysseus could not have succeeded without his

at least one direct quote

## BODY PARAGRAPH 1

at least one direct quote

**BODY PARAGRAPH 2**

Topic Sentence:

Odysseus' fierce loyalty is his other important heroic trait.

Evidence—remember to explain how each example connects to your thesis!

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ ( )
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ ( )

*\*\*Is there a parenthetical citation with a page number for each of your three examples?\**

Closing Sentence—wrap up your point/help transition to next paragraph:

These examples of loyalty solidify Odysseus' label as a true epic hero.

**CONCLUSION**

ReVISIT (do not restate) your thesis:

\_\_\_\_\_

Closing Thoughts:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\*For Closing Thoughts, remember to consider the "So what?" question. Your job is to wrap up your essay by proving to the reader that there is significance to the claims you are making—your understanding of the text links to a bigger picture. You also may want to look back at the hook in your introduction. Can you connect your closing thoughts to this idea?