



BEACON POINT

— *writing your future* —

Examples of Analytical Thesis Statements

Literary Analysis

O'Connor illustrates the duality of goodness and the hypocrisy in the saving grace through the use of characterization and plot development.

(Clear focus: paper will analyze how the author conveys that message through characterization and plot)

In a *Tale of Two Cities*, Charles Dickens shows the process by which a wasted life can be redeemed. Sidney Carton, through his love for Lucie Manette, is transformed from a hopeless, bitter man into a hero whose life and death have meaning.

(Clear focus: paper will analyze how the author showed that message through the love Sidney had for Lucie)

Analytical Essay

"An analysis of the college admission process reveals one challenge facing counselors: accepting students with high test scores or students with strong extracurricular backgrounds" [Purdue OWL](#).

(Clear focus: Explain the analysis of the college admission process and how this shows that particular challenge)

Rhetorical Analysis

Mitt Romney criticized President Obama's presidency and built up his own political experiences. His main purpose in this speech was to sway voters away from Obama through the usage of ethos, Ad Hominem attacks, and anaphora.

(Clear Focus: Analyze how Mitt Romney used 3 specific rhetorical devices to meet his purpose)



BEACON POINT

— *writing your future* —

Examples of Expository Thesis Statements

Expository Essay

In an effort to ground my ethical criticism—so as to not make it too abstract and simplistic as to say whatever does not offend or grate my personal standards—I have created five criteria for ethical consideration: (1) contains a message intended to enrich societal values and life, (2) presents all actions with subsequent consequences, (3) demonstrates role-models or examples readers can follow and learn from, (4) advocates the beauty and wonder of life, and (5) portrays each individual passage as distinct and valuable parts of the whole.

(Clear Focus: Inform reader of the writer's five criteria when determining if a literary work is ethical or not)

“The life of the typical college student is characterized by time spent studying, attending class, and socializing with peers” [Purdue OWL](#).

(Clear Focus: Explain how students spend their time)

Compare & Contrast Essay

“Although both chefs and cooks can prepare fine meals, chefs differ from cooks in education, commitment, and artistry” [Kean University](#).

Anecdotal Essay

“A first white water rafting experience can challenge the body and spirit and transform an adolescent into an adult” [Kean University](#).