Literary Analysis – Introduction

Name: _______________________________ Date: __________________

Literary analysis essays provide readers with an insight into some aspect of a novel, story, play, or poem. The support of the thesis is in the form of the author’s words woven in with textual material for proof.

➔ Be sure to merge the quoted material with your own words.
➔ Note that literary analysis essays are written in PRESENT TENSE.

Introductory Paragraph = Lead or Hook, Title of Work, Author’s First and Last Name, Sentence tying the thesis to the Work, and Thesis.

Example:

Marriage is a blissful and loving union of two people. Conversely, it can also be annoying and aggravating. Thus, the juxtaposition between the good and the not-so-good emotions make marriage an interesting endeavor. In “Story of an Hour,” Kate Chopin condenses the history of a marriage—with all the nuances of feelings, reactions to situation, and inferences about the relationship of the couple—into a snapshot, sixty short minutes that ironically tell the tale of a lifetime. Irony continues to move the narrative forward and presents itself as the central, controlling force in the protagonist’s actions, environment, and inner thoughts and feelings.

Activity:

1. Analyze the paragraph above into the sections of an introduction and label each part.
   a. Lead or Hook
   b. Title of Work
   c. Author’s First and Last Name
   d. Sentence tying the thesis to the Work
   e. Thesis

2. Explain the author’s view about how the title of the work is ironic.

3. State which two (2) aspects will be the main **focus** of the literary analysis.
   a. 
   b.

4. Write an introduction for your literary analysis.