

Writing the Literary Analysis on Theme Sample Outline

Step 1

Theme(universal idea about humankind): *Those who appear pious and virtuous may in fact be guilty of hypocrisy.*

Step 2

Thesis or claim : *Arthur Miller's The Crucible exemplifies how those who appear the most pious and virtuous may in fact be guilty of hypocrisy.*

Step 3

Catchy Opener and thesis:

I= Paragraph 1: *From Justin Bieber to Anthony Weiner, some of our most prominent public figures have had deceptive public personas. (Now add thesis from above)*

Step 4

Topic Sentences/ Transitions:

Body II= Paragraph 2: *Reverend Parris provides one example of how a person's moral exterior may differ from his interior motivations.*

A. specific details support from text

B. specific details support from text

Body III= Paragraph 3: *Like Parris, Judge Danforth is well respected in his community for his supposed vales and moral, but in reality we discover he too is a hypocrite.*

A. specific details support from text

B. specific details support from text

Body IV= Paragraph 4: *Perhaps the most glaring example of hypocrisy is portrayed through Abigail who is so deceiving that she has fooled both Parris and Danforth.*

A. specific details support from text

B. specific details support from text

Step 5

Conclusion V= Paragraph 5: *Although this play was written in 1953 and its subject matter highlights the Salem witchcraft hysteria of 1692, it is ultimately about human nature and one of its most destructive forces. Hypocrisy has been plaguing us...*