

**Analytical Essay Format:**  
**CDCCT (Claim, Data, Commentary, Conclusion, Transition)**

**Intro:**

-Hook: *Draw your reader in. Perhaps start with a quote, an anecdote, a question, a situation, etc.*

-Introduction to Literature: *Introduce the piece of literature you will be analyzing including the author and title.*

-Thesis: *Answer the question! Make sure you are actually explicitly answering the question being asked.*

-Road map (3 points/claims): *Tell us 3 ways you will prove your answer.*

**3-5 Body Paragraphs:**

-Claim: *The first claim in your road map*

-Data: *Evidence from the text, preferably quoted and cited lines from the novel you are analyzing.*

-Commentary: *Explain how that data proves your claim. Why did you choose this data? What does it have to do with your claim? Avoid pure summary. Try to make new connections, building an interesting and new argument/ thought sequence.*

-Conclusion: *How does this commentary/data/claim connect back to your overall thesis?*

-Transition: *Look for a commonality with the next paragraph so you can smoothly move to the next thought.*

**Conclusion:**

-Re-state Thesis: *Tell us your answer to the question again, preferably in different language.*

-Summarize main points of your essay: *Go over your road-map again.*

-So What? Why should your argument matter to us and the world?: *Pull your argument out of this singular novel. Why does this argument matter? Why should a reader care about your argument? Why does it matter to humankind and what can we learn from it?*