

OUTLINE FORMAT FOR THE ANALYSIS

I. Introduction

- A. Briefly state how you will introduce your essay (anecdote, interesting fact, quotation, general discussion of the literature, etc.)

- B. Main idea (State your thesis in one sentence.)

Example: The storm in Shakespeare's *King Lear* is a dramatic objective correlative communicating Lear's personal distress, feelings of guilt and existential crisis.

II. Body Paragraph 1

- A. Topic Sentence (Write the first supporting statement for your main idea.)

- B. Explain your topic sentence and give textual support (if appropriate).

III. Body Paragraph 2

- A. Topic Sentence (Write the second supporting statement for your main idea.)

- B. Explain your topic sentence and give textual support (if appropriate).

IV. Body Paragraph 3

A. Topic Sentence (Write the third supporting statement for your main idea.)

B. Explain your topic sentence and give textual support (if appropriate).

V. Conclusion Express the significance of what you have just written.

Example: On stage, the visual or aural effect of the storm would be most impressive for the audience, and adds to the emotional impact of the play. The loud thunder and frightening bolts of light are apt in communicating on a visceral level the intensity of Lear's personal distress, sense of guilt and existential crisis . . .