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Text-Dependent Analysis

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WHAT IS TDA?

- TDA stands for text-dependent analysis.
- It is a type of writing that requires students to respond to a question with their own original insight using evidence from a text.
- Students must go beyond a basic understanding of the text.
- Students must go back to the text to search for evidence to support their claims or ideas.
- Students should make interesting connections between textual evidence and their individual interpretation.



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WHAT TDA IS NOT

If you can respond to the TDA prompt without reading the text or needing to go back to the text, you are doing it wrong...

- TDA is not a summary
- TDA is not a retelling of the story
- TDA does not require personal background information

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ANALYZE THE TEXT

Connect the literal and inferential components of a text to find the evaluative meaning.

- Literal: What does the text explicitly state?
- Inferential: What conclusions can you draw based on evidence?
- Evaluative meaning: Your analysis of information formulated from textual evidence, elements, and structure. What is the intention and importance of the text?

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PLAN YOUR TDA

- Prepare: Read and annotate the prompt first (if possible)—make sure to circle key words in the prompt, like “theme” or “mood.”
- Read: Close read and annotate the text.
- Brainstorm: Outline what your essay will look like, and go back to the text for evidence.
- Draft: Write your first draft of your TDA.
- Proofread: Read over your work (multiple times), edit, and revise.
- Finalize: Review your writer’s checklist.



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WRITE AN EFFECTIVE TDA

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- Introduction paragraph

- 3 Developed body paragraphs
- Concise conclusion paragraph

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INTRODUCTION

- Your introduction should grab the interest of your audience. You can do this in a few ways: pose a question, state an opinion, present an argument, offer a definition, outline a problem, tell a story, or provide background information.
- You should then give a **BRIEF** summary of the text and make sure to include the title of the text, text type, and author's full name.
- Restate the TDA question with a clear thesis statement to preview what your analysis will be about. Your thesis should show you understand the task.
- Always use transitional words to avoid confusion between thoughts and ideas.



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ANALYTICAL THESIS STATEMENT

- A thesis statement is your direct claim or answer to the prompt in one concise statement.
- It provides your reader insight about what you will specifically be explaining within your analysis.
- There are 3 components to a proper thesis statement: The topic, your position, and your reasoning.

Example: *The lamb in Roald Dahl's "Lamb to Slaughter" is an essential symbol of the character Mary because she is undervalued by her husband, her violent actions are unexpected, and her methods of evading suffering are ultimately triumphant.*



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BODY/ANALYTICAL PARAGRAPHS

- Use the 3 C's approach. (Context, Content, Connections)
- Start each body paragraph with context—what is the situation? The **context** is one sentence that orients the reader to the part of the text that the reader is about to discuss.
- Transition to relevant content. **Content** is another term for textual evidence. Use a variety of evidence types: details, examples, quotes, and/or facts.
- Make **connections** between your interpretation and the evidence as it relates back to the TDA prompt. This is the most important step, so do not skip it!

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CONCLUSION

• Make sure your audience knows your essay is coming to an end using transitional phrases.

- You must restate your thesis (using different wording).
- Summarize your main points.
- A conclusion paragraph doesn't offer any new evidence from the text, but may introduce new questions for your audience to consider.
- End with a final thought that provokes your reader into deeper consideration of your ideas. What do you want your reader to think about it as they finish your paper?

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RACES

Use the acronym RACES to make sure you have completed essential parts of the TDA.

- R.** Restate the question.
- A.** Answer the question.
- C.** Cite evidence.
- E.** Explain the evidence.
- S.** Summarize the analysis.

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NEED TO KNOW

- Do not include personal information in the essay unless directly told to do so. You must be able to support your ideas with details from the text rather than your personal experiences.
- Do not use personal pronouns. Personal pronouns are distracting as they make the analysis seem biased. The TDA is your interpretation of a text, so your opinion is implied.
- Avoid talking about the essay in the essay. Never say, “In this essay” or “I am going to explain here...”
- Avoid “quote-bombing” meaning, don’t overload your body paragraphs with a ton of quotes as your only source of evidence.
- Always approach the essay as if your audience has little to no understanding about what your topic is. Treat your audience as if they have never read the text you are writing about.



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Name:

Date:

Notes TDA

What is TDA?

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- TDA is not a _____
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Analyze the Text

Connect the literal and inferential components of a text to find the evaluative meaning.

- Literal: What does the text explicitly state?
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- Evaluative meaning: Your analysis of information formulated from textual evidence, elements, and structure. What is the intention and importance of the text?

Plan Your TDA

- _____: Read and annotate the prompt first (if possible)—make sure to circle key words in the prompt, like “theme” or “mood.”
- _____: Close read and annotate the text.
- _____: Outline what your essay will look like, and go back to the text for evidence.
- _____: Write your first draft of your TDA.
- _____: Read over your work (multiple times), edit, and revise.
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Write an Effective TDA

- Introduction paragraph
- 3 Developed body paragraphs
- Concise conclusion paragraph

Introduction

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- You should then give a BRIEF summary of the text and make sure to include the title of the text, text type, and author's full name.
- Restate the TDA question with a _____ statement to preview what your analysis will be about. Your thesis should show you understand the task.
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Analytical Thesis Statement

- A thesis statement is your direct claim or answer to the prompt in one concise statement.
- It provides your reader insight about what you will specifically be explaining within your analysis.
- There are 3 components to a proper thesis statement:

Example: The lamb in Roald Dahl's "Lamb to Slaughter" is an essential symbol of the character Mary because she is undervalued by her husband, her violent actions are unexpected, and her methods of evading suffering are ultimately triumphant.

Body Paragraphs

- Use the 3 C's approach.
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Conclusion

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Use the acronym RACES to make sure you have completed essential parts of the TDA.

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A	PREVIEW
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S	

Need To Know

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- Do not use _____

Personal pronouns are distracting as they make the analysis seem biased.

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Sentence Starters

Prepositional Phrases	Subject	Verbs
In the story, In the poem, Toward the middle passage, In the article, Within the first stanza, Near the end of the story, Through the beginning of Before the (event) occurs, Concerning the first line of the article, By the end of the poem,	The author The character (name) The reader The audience The setting The mood The tone The dialogue	Shows Describes Infers Realizes Feels Reveals Develops Changes Demonstrates Illustrates Highlights

Transitional Words and Phrases

Introduction	Generally speaking Ordinarily It can be determined Undoubtedly Within the story Without question It is clear It should be noted Considering that
Introducing Evidence	The author writes The character states The authors uses the phrase The character exclams The authors demonstrates with the line The following quote proves The character is described as The setting is detailed as For example For instance Specifically in the text The author uses the word choice
General	Equally important Consequently As a result Therefore For that reason Although Meanwhile Particularly Significantly Additionally As well as Along with In addition to Conversely Previously Not only Moreover Unlike
Conclusion	In the final analysis All things considered It is clear that Ultimately It is important to see Readers can conclude that Above all Provided the evidence

Writer's Checklist

Writers Checklist Text Dependent Analysis (TDA)

PLAN before you write

Read the entire passage(s) carefully.

Read the question carefully. Circle key words.

Find the connection on how the question relates to the passage(s).

Organize your ideas on scratch paper.

Outline how you will organize your evidence into paragraphs.

FOCUS while you write

Respond to the prompt completely.

Go back into the text to find evidence.

Analyze and explain what you think about the information in your essay.

Support and develop the ideas in your essay by using textual evidence from the passage(s).

Use correct language, a variety of sentence types, and transitions between paragraphs in your essay.

Organize your essay with an introduction, body, and conclusion.

PROOFREAD after you write.

Re-read the question and your final essay.

Make sure you answered all parts of the TDA prompt.

Check that you used relevant and accurate evidence to support your answer.

Correct any errors in capitalization, spelling, sentence formation, punctuation, and word choice.

Check to see that you used a variety of sentence types and transitions.

Make sure you wrote your response in the appropriate language, format, and location.

TDA Essay Rubric

CONTENT:

- The writer effectively addresses all parts of the task demonstrating in-depth analytic understanding of the text(s).
- The writer develops a strong thesis with the support of relevant, well-chosen facts, definitions, concrete details, quotations, or other information and examples.
- The writer provides a thorough analysis of explicit and implicit meanings from text(s) to effectively support claims, opinions, ideas and inferences.
- The writer includes substantial, accurate, and direct references to the text(s).

FOCUS:

- The writer establishes and develops a thesis statement and completes all sections of the task without getting off topic.
- The writer explains how all evidence provided directly supports the thesis.
- The writer produces clear and coherent writing in which the development is appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

ORGANIZATION:

- The writer organizes complex ideas, concepts, and information to make important connections and distinctions.
- The writer uses appropriate and varied transitions to create cohesion and clarify the relationships among ideas and concepts.
- The writer's supporting reasons are organized intentionally, explained clearly, and easy to follow.
- The writer includes an effective introduction, development, and conclusion identifying an opinion, topic, or controlling idea related to the text(s).
- The writer provides a strong organizational structure that effectively supports the focus and ideas.

STYLE:

- The writer uses precise language and domain-specific vocabulary to explain the topic.
- The writer establishes and maintains a formal style of language.
- The writer uses an objective tone while attending to the norms and conventions of the discipline in which they are writing.

CONVENTIONS AND FORMAT:

- The writer uses proper grammar, mechanics, usage, and punctuation.
- The writer has very few errors that do not impact or take away from the readability of the essay.
- The writer writes or types essay using proper format (specified by teacher).
- The writer completes essay on time.