

English 10

This course continues the development of writing skills started in English 9, and focuses on writing a wide variety of papers, such as compare/contrast, process, analysis, archetypal stories, and vignettes. Grammar and punctuation skills are refined through written work. In addition, students write two research papers following the traditional form. Students also read three novels and explore poetry by a variety of authors. Reading comprehension and critical thinking are emphasized. The following books are required for this course:

- The Oak Meadow English 10 Syllabus
- *A Separate Peace* by John Knowles
- *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain
- *Anthem* by Ayn Rand

Outline of the English 10 Syllabus:

- Lesson 1:** *A Separate Peace*, Chapters 1-4
- Lesson 2:** *A Separate Peace*, Chapters 5-7
- Lesson 3:** *A Separate Peace*, Chapters 8-10
- Lesson 4:** *A Separate Peace*, Chapters 11-13
- Lesson 5:** *A Separate Peace*
Essay Writing
- Lesson 6:** Poetry
The Sestina
Donald Junkins, *Crossing by Ferry*
- Lesson 7:** Point of View
- Lesson 8:** Writing Styles
Writing an Opinion Paper
- Lesson 9:** Writing a Compare/Contrast Paper
- Lesson 10:** Writing a Process Paper
- Lesson 11:** *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, Chapters 1-11
- Lesson 12:** *Huck Finn*, Chapters 12-20
- Lesson 13:** *Huck Finn*, Chapters 21-30
- Lesson 14:** *Huck Finn*, Chapters 31-43
- Lesson 15:** *Huck Finn*
Essay Writing
- Lesson 16:** Writing an Analysis Paper
- Lesson 17:** Writing a Biographical
Research Paper
- Lesson 18:** Complete Research Paper
- Lesson 19:** Poetry
Emily Dickinson, *I Heard a Fly Buzz... when I died*
Form
- Lesson 20:** *Anthem*, Chapter 1
- Lesson 21:** *Anthem*, Chapters 2-4
- Lesson 22:** *Anthem*, Chapters 5-8
- Lesson 23:** *Anthem*, Chapters 9-12
- Lesson 24:** *Anthem*
Visual Representation
- Lesson 25:** Poetry
e.e. cummings, *wherelings whenlings*
Writing an Experimental Poem
Vignettes
- Lesson 26:** Writing an Archetypal Story
Elements of a Story
Introducing Archetypes
in Your Story
Setting
Characters
Plot
- Lesson 27:** Continue Archetypal Story
- Lesson 28:** Complete Archetypal Story
- Lesson 29:** A Topical Research Paper
- Lesson 30:** Complete Topical Research Paper
- Lesson 31:** Haiku Poetry
- Lesson 32:** The Short Story
Jack London, *To Build a Fire*
- Lesson 33:** Nikolai Gogol, *The Overcoat*
- Lesson 34:** *The Book of Ruth* and *How Much Land Does a Man Need?*
Essay Question
- Lesson 35:** Writing a Story
Plot and Conflict
Setting
Character
The Narrator
The Theme
Dialogue
Revision
- Lesson 36:** Complete Writing a Story

English 10 ~~~~~ Lesson 16

WRITING AN ANALYSIS PAPER

One of the most common kinds of papers you will write in high school or college is the *analysis* paper. In an analysis paper you focus upon a complex topic and analyze the parts that make up that topic. Analysis papers can be written on a variety of topics. For example, you may analyze the political events leading up to World War II, write an analysis of the symbols used in the novel *Animal Farm*, or analyze the key factors that contribute to the destruction of the rain forests.

There are several stages in writing a good analysis paper, and each stage is important. First, it's very important to have a clear *purpose* in mind before you begin. Otherwise, you can easily get lost in the details and fail to communicate the overall picture to the reader. Clarify your purpose *before* you begin gathering information, so you can focus on information that will support your purpose. You should be able to state your purpose clearly in just a few sentences. For example, if your paper is about the destruction of the rain forests, you might state your purpose like this:

According to many scientists, the destruction of the rain forests is not only causing the extinction of thousands of plant and animal species, but is also threatening the survival of human beings. In this paper I will list the major factors behind this process and explain how this is threatening humanity.

Once you have your purpose clearly stated, you can then proceed to the next stage: *gathering information*. As you gather information, arrange it by category, either on note cards or on separate sheets of paper. Using the rain forest example, you may find yourself grouping information into such subjects as logging industry, hamburger chains, local economy, or other categories.

Continue gathering information until you feel you have enough to provide a complete picture of the parts involved. If you get lost, refer to your purpose.

When you feel you have gathered enough information, you have to begin to *analyze* what you have gathered. In this stage, you consider what you have learned and see how it all fits together. Which is the most important part? Which is the least important? Do several parts work together? By understanding all of the parts and how they fit together, you will be able to write a much more informative and interesting paper.

After you have analyzed the information, *create an outline*. Organize your information into a structure and sequence that will support your purpose. Group the information by main headings, subheadings, and supporting points. Decide which point you want to mention first, second, and so on. The overall format of an analysis paper should be as follows:

- **Purpose (Thesis Statement):** A brief statement of the topic and what you intend to show.
- **Supporting Statements:** Facts, examples and other elements that support your purpose.
- **Conclusion:** A brief statement summarizing the main point of your paper.

When you feel good about your outline, write the first draft of your paper. Fill in the main points you listed in your outline and include the details of the information you gathered. If you are using a computer, write this first draft on the computer, so you can make changes easily. If you are not using a computer, write the first draft in pencil.

Next, have someone proofread your paper and give you comments and suggestions. Although you should read it yourself to catch any obvious errors, you also need to have another person look at it, because they will look at it from another point of view, and see things in it you didn't see. Even the best writers have their papers proofread by others.

Finally, write your final paper. Incorporate the suggestions of the person or persons that proofread your paper (if you feel those suggestions would make the paper better) and put it into its final form, typed or handwritten in ink.

ASSIGNMENT

Choose one of the following topics and write a two- to three-page analysis paper.

- Analyze the key characteristics of a good parent, a good teacher, a good student, or a good... (your choice).
- Analyze the difficulties a teenager faces by not giving in (or giving in) to peer pressure and going along with the crowd.
- Analyze a specific concept in science: The structure of an atom, the process of genetic engineering, the mechanics of lasers, or another scientific concept of your choice.
- Analyze the forces that led up to a specific event in history: The American Revolution, the French Revolution, the Renaissance, or another historical event of your choice.
- Analyze the symbolism of the characters, events and props of any novel of your choice.
- Analyze the strategy used to market a product in a TV commercial or magazine ad, including the choice of words, colors, product placement, and other factors that combine to create the overall approach.
- Analyze any subject of your choice.

This paper should be either typed or handwritten legibly in ink and double-spaced on one side only of 8 1/2" x 11" paper. Include a title.