Literature Essay Technique

GCSE English Literature • Grades 3–8

Name: _____ Class: _____ Total: _____ / 68

Show all your working. Marks are given for correct method as well as the final answer.

1. Write down the first thing to do with an essay question, before planning anything. **[2 marks]**

> *How does the writer present the relationship between power and guilt?*
> Write about: how the relationship is presented; the methods the writer uses.

Answer: _____

2. Explain what a thesis statement is. **[2 marks]**

Answer: _____

3. Write a thesis statement for the question shown. **[3 marks]**

> *How does the writer present the relationship between power and guilt?*
> Write about: how the relationship is presented; the methods the writer uses.

Answer: _____

4. Explain why *In this essay I will discuss…* is a weak opening. **[2 marks]**

Answer: _____

5. Write down the four parts of a good literature paragraph. **[4 marks]**

Answer: _____

6. Explain what it means to embed a quotation. **[2 marks]**

Answer: _____

7. Rewrite this so the quotation is embedded: *The writer shows guilt.* ***His hands were never quite clean.*** **[3 marks]**

Answer: _____

8. Explain why a short quotation is usually better than a long one. **[3 marks]**

Answer: _____

9. Explain what it means to *zoom in* on a word. **[3 marks]**

Answer: _____

10. Write down what to do in a closed-book exam if you cannot remember an exact quotation. **[3 marks]**

Answer: _____

11. Write down three methods a NOVELIST uses that a poet may not. **[3 marks]**

Answer: _____

12. Write down three methods a POET uses. **[3 marks]**

Answer: _____

13. Explain why *the writer uses a metaphor* on its own earns nothing. **[3 marks]**

Answer: _____

14. Explain the difference between a character and a construct. **[3 marks]**

Answer: _____

15. Explain what context means in a literature mark scheme. **[3 marks]**

Answer: _____

16. Explain why a separate context paragraph usually scores badly. **[3 marks]**

Answer: _____

17. Rewrite this into usable context: *The book was written in 1847 when women had few rights.* **[3 marks]**

Answer: _____

18. Plan a full paragraph for the question shown.

How does the writer present the relationship between power and guilt? Write about: how the relationship is presented; the methods the writer uses.

(a) Write your point and choose your evidence. **[3 marks]**

(b) Write the analysis and the link. **[4 marks]**

19. A student writes: *The character feels really guilty which shows he is a bad person. This is shown by the quote.*

(a) Identify three weaknesses. **[3 marks]**

(b) Rewrite it to a grade-7 standard. **[4 marks]**

Answer: _____

20. An essay is worth 30 marks and you have 45 minutes.

(a) Work out a sensible time plan. **[3 marks]**

(b) Explain why three developed paragraphs usually beat five rushed ones. **[3 marks]**

Answer: _____

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