

Literary Analysis Essay: *Lord of the Flies*

Directions: Choose one of the prompts for your literary analysis essay. Use at least five direct quotes and/or scenarios from the text. You may also use quotes or information from other sources (poems, books, movies, notes, etc.) to strengthen your essay.

Prompt 1

Lord of the Flies is classified as a dystopian novel. What qualities of dystopian fiction are found in the novel? What is Golding criticizing by writing this novel? What instances of allegory are in the novel, and why are these moments allegorical (historical, literature, religion, etc.)? Finally, what elements of rhetoric are in the novel (ethos, pathos, logos)? Use at least five direct quotes and/or scenarios from the text.

Prompt 2

Choose one of the novel's main characters: Jack, Ralph, Piggy or Simon. Analyze the impact of the author's characterization on the novel's overall meaning and purpose.

Prompt 3

Lord of the Flies is full of references to glasses, blindness, and sight. Trace these references throughout the novel while summarizing Golding's ideas about logic and blind faith.

Prompt 4

By the novel's end, Jack wears a mask that virtually hides his identity. What other "masks" or disguises are found in the novel? What appearance or self-image does Ralph try to project? What does their choice of "masks" reflect about Jack and Ralph, about human nature in general?

Prompt 5

Ralph and Jack compete from the beginning, each exhibiting different leadership qualities. Which boy makes the best leader and why? What gives him power? Contrast the two boy's leadership styles.

Prompt 6

Choose an element of *Lord of the Flies* that you found personally interesting. Analyze this element thoroughly as it applies to a theme, character, or symbol in the book.

Essay Requirements

1. Use at least five direct quotes and/or scenarios from the text.
 - a. Use quotation marks if directly taking it from a source. Include the author name, page number and who said the quote (if applicable).

Examples:

"There was the brilliant world of hunting, tactics, fierce exhilaration, skill; and there was the world of longing and baffled commonsense" (Golding, 71).

When the boys blindly follow Jack up the mountain to make the signal fire, Piggy scornfully says, "Acting like a crowd of kids!" (Golding, 38).

This is ironic because Piggy is scolding the boys for being children when in fact they are children.

2. Underline (if writing) or use italics (if typing) whenever using the title of a novel or film. If you use a poem as a source, put quotes around the title.
3. If using other sources besides the novel, list them in a bibliography using MLA format.
4. The essay should be three to four pages long (hand written, single space) or four to five pages long (typed, double spaced). If writing by hand, please use pencil or black ink.
5. Please title your essay based on your topic.

Due Dates

- Rough draft due December 14
- Final draft due between December 18 and January 5.

***After January 5 I will NOT accept essays.**