

# Essay Boot Camp

Literary Essays



# **Recap!**

**Last session, we:**

**Took a pre-assessment on Literary Essays**

## Teaching Point

**Good writers learn the structure of an essay they will be writing and learn to change and add content as needed.**



# What is the purpose of Boot Camp?

- **Also known as Basic Training, Boot Camp prepares a person for something through a variety of exercises.**
- **You will participate in two days of Essay Boot Camp to prepare you for this unit and help you to write a literary essay!**
- **You will work together as a group through a series of exercises to write a quick essay! This will help you to learn the structure and organization of an essay.**

# Rules and Regulations of Boot Camp

- **You must address your teachers as Sergeant. Ex: Sergeant Alston**
- **All group members must participate in ALL exercises.**
- **Divide up responsibilities in your group - your participation grade depends on it!**
- **You must go through each exercise in order, one at a time, as a group. You cannot move on to another exercise without permission or without your other group members.**
- **HAVE FUN!**



# Exercise #1: Retell



**As a group, retell the story of the Three Little Pigs. Think especially about the third little pig, since he will be our focus today.**

## Exercise #2: Read/Annotate the Text

**As a group, read *The Three Little Pigs*! You can take turns or act it out, it's your choice! Take notes (notebook or post-its) on the third little pig since he will be our focus today.**

**The story can be found in your *Essay Boot Camp Package* on *Google Classroom*.**



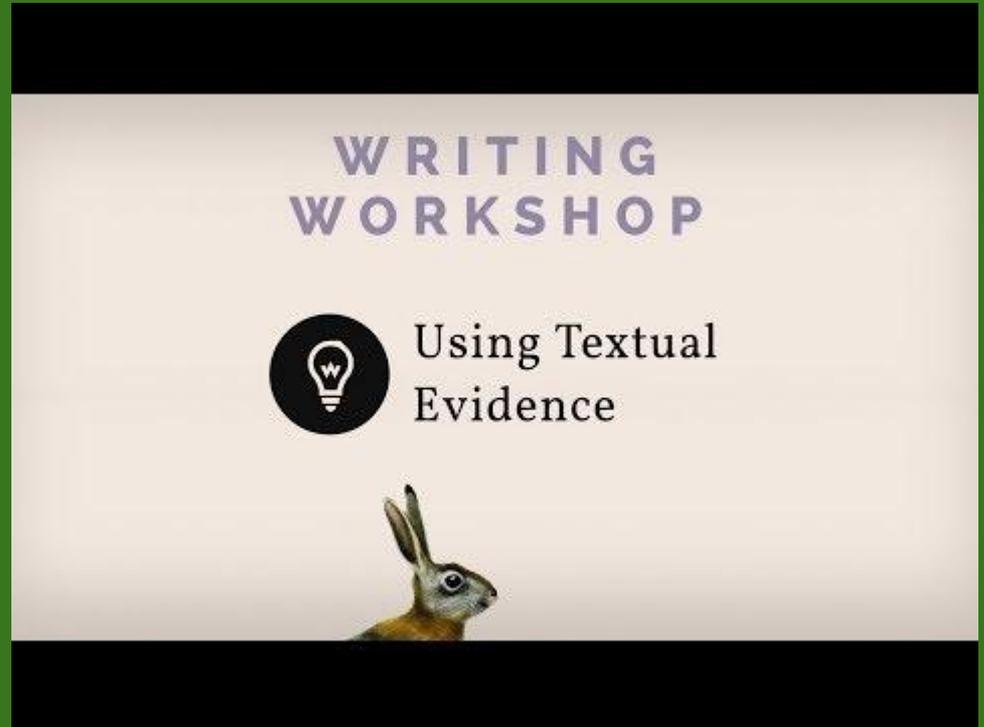
## **Exercise #3: Thesis Statement/Claim**

**A Thesis statement: states what you believe and what you intend to prove. As a group, come up with 3 reasons why the third little pig is admirable. Your thesis statement/claim is below.**

**The third little pig is an admirable character because \_\_\_\_\_, because \_\_\_\_\_, and most of all, because \_\_\_\_\_.**

# Exercise #4: Evidence/Explanation

**As a group, watch the video ⇨. This will help you to include your evidence and explanation during the next exercise.**



# Exercise #5: Outline

Review each outline and determine which one is best to use for your group. Divide your responsibilities up among the paragraphs. Once you decide who is going to work on which paragraph, get to work! The outlines can be found in your Essay Boot Camp Package.

## A literary essay is...

An essay written about a specific piece of literature that includes the writer's thoughts, feelings, and opinions about the text

## A literary essay includes...

### Introduction

- States a claim about literature
- Names the piece of literature (title and author)
- Summarizes the text
- Connects the claim to the literature

### Body paragraphs

- Each one states the claim and one reason
- Gives evidence to prove the reason

## Literary Essay Outline

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Use the boxes below to plan your literary essay. THIS IS JUST AN OUTLINE. You do not need to write word for word everything that will appear in your literary essay. The most important parts to have in your outline will be the topic sentences and the evidence (DIRECT QUOTES). Even though you already wrote your introductory paragraph, please rewrite it in the first box below.

Introduction:

Body Paragraph 1

Topic Sentence/Reason #1 (first reason to support your claim):

## Literary Analysis Essay Graphic Organizer

- Paragraph #1 - Introduction (Remember to include author's name and story title)
- Lead:
  - Transition (may use info from story and should include a brief summary):
  - Thesis Statement:

Paragraph A

Point #1 -

- Statement:
- Proof/Example:
- Analysis:

Paragraph B

Point #2 -

- Statement:
- Proof/Example:
- Analysis:

Paragraph C

Point #3 -

- Statement:
- Proof/Example:
- Analysis:

## Exercise #6: Drafting



**Using the completed outline, begin to draft your literary essay. Please do this on a Google Doc. Share one doc with each student in group.**

# Exercise #7: Revising & Editing

**Read/reread your essay and make any changes and/or corrections. Use the Argument Writing Checklist to assist you.**

**This can be found in your Essay Boot Camp Package.**

	Structure	
Overall	I explained the topic/text and staked out a position that can be supported by a variety of trustworthy sources. Each part of my text helped build my argument, and led to a conclusion.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lead	I wrote an introduction to interest readers and help them understand and care about a topic or text. I thought backwards between the piece and the introduction to make sure that the introduction fit with the whole.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Not only did I clearly state my claim, I also told my readers how my text would unfold.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transitions	I used transitions to help readers understand how the different parts of my piece fit together to explain and support my argument.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	I used transitions to help connect claim(s), reasons, and evidence, and to imply relationships such as when material exemplifies, adds on to, is similar to, explains, is a result of, or contrasts. I use transitions such as <i>for instance</i> , <i>in addition</i> , <i>one reason</i> , <i>furthermore</i> , <i>according to</i> , <i>this evidence suggests</i> , and <i>thus we can say that</i> .	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ending	In my conclusion, I restated the important points and offered a final insight or implication for readers to consider. The ending strengthened the overall argument.	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organization	I organized my argument into sections: I arranged reasons and evidence purposefully, leading readers from one claim or reason to another.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	The order of the sections and the internal structure of each section made sense.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Development	
Elaboration	I included and arranged a variety of evidence such as facts, quotations, examples, and definitions.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	I used trusted sources and information from experts and gave the sources credit.	<input type="checkbox"/>
	I worked to explain how the reasons and evidence I gave supported my claim(s) and strengthened my argument. To do this I may have referred to earlier parts of my text, summarized background information, raised questions, or highlighted possible implications.	<input type="checkbox"/>

# Exercise #8: Submit Final Draft



**Each students will submit an essay on Google Classroom. This will count toward your participation for the two days of Boot Camp. Each student in each group must submit the same essay.**