

# Character Analysis Essay Outline

## I. Introduction

- **Opening focus:** A brief observation about behavior, conflict, or pressure that sets up the analysis.
- **Context:** Name the literary work, the author, and the specific character being analyzed.
- **Thesis statement:** One clear, arguable claim about how the character functions, develops, or influences the story.

## II. Body Paragraph 1: Character Foundation

- **Topic sentence:** Present the character's initial traits, background, or position in the story.
- **Textual evidence:** Key actions, descriptions, or dialogue from early scenes.
- **Analysis:** Explain how these details establish the character's starting point and role.

## III. Body Paragraph 2: Motivation and Conflict

- **Topic sentence:** Identify what drives the character or what stands in their way.
- **Textual evidence:** Moments of conflict, pressure, or decision-making.
- **Analysis:** Show how the character responds and what this reveals about priorities or values.

## IV. Body Paragraph 3: Development or Resistance to Change

- **Topic sentence:** Address how the character changes over time or resists change.
- **Textual evidence:** Compare early and later behavior.
- **Analysis:** Explain why this shift or lack of shift matters to the story's meaning.

## V. Conclusion

- **Restated thesis:** Reframe the main argument without repeating wording.
- **Synthesis:** Connect the key insights from each body paragraph.
- **Final insight:** Clarify the character's overall significance within the literary work.