IB Analysis Cheat Sheet
A Template for Literary Analysis Required for Analytical Writing & Speaking
(Including Individual Oral Assessments)

Please note that the following template is for a basic 3X5 analysis argument. As you develop sophistication in your analysis, you may find the 3X5 structure too formulaic and constricting for your purposes. But do understand the 3x5 structure will still be there guiding your logic.

Rule 1) To build a literary analysis argument, start with the following prompts and questions:

Provide a brief synopsis of the overall text and/or the passage you are about to analyze. Do so in ideally one sentence, no more than two brief sentences.

[ ]

If a larger work, choose a passage you believe is the most significant for the overall work. If the text you have is already an excerpt, work with what you have. Then answer: What is the text saying? What is its meaning – theme, universal idea, or global issue?

[ ]

HOW does the author say it? Answer this 3X.

Rhetorical Strategies, SUCH AS… Argument by Analogy Classification Comparison/Contrast Description Example Process Analysis Persuasion Parody Definition Cause/Effect Illustration Narration Anaphora Antithesis Asyndeton Connotation Denotation Induction Deduction Hortative Sentence Inversion Juxtaposition Metonymy Synecdoche Parallelism Peroration Oxymoron Paradox Polysyndeton Qualifiers Syllogism Trope Understatement Wit Zeugma	**Development and Organization Strategies:** **Stylistic strategies** **Organizational Patterns** Narration Chronological Poetic Cause/effect Expository Compare/contrast Argumentative Problem/solution Persuasive ***NOTE:*** *Writers often use multiple development strategies in a single piece – determine these elements according to a paragraph-by-paragraph basis, or a sentence-by-sentence basis!*

Be sure you know your textual evidence: where is the device/technique is used for the effect you are saying it has?

Aristotelian Rhetorical Appeals: ***Ethos*** – the appeal to people's sense of ethics. ***Pathos*** – to appeal to people's sense of emotion. ***Logos*** – to appeal to people's sense of logic.	**Techniques Writers Use:** **Figurative Techniques, Such As…** **Syntax, Such As…** *For Example:* *For Example:* Extended Metaphor Alliteration Flashback/Flash-forward Parallel Structure Narrative Framing Coordination Stream of Consciousness Subordination Allegory Caesura/Enjambment Personification Repetition Symbolism Parody

Topic Sentence - What is your analytical argument?

Devices Such As… Motif/Repetition Allusion Style Parallelism Dialogue Shifts in time, style, or purpose Onomatopoeia Symbol Assonance Consonance Hyperbole Understatement Ambiguity P.O.V Connotation Denotation Analogy Characterization Synecdoche Metonymy Anaphora Foreshadowing Figurative Lang. Juxtaposition Iconography Non Sequitur Simile Pun Rhetorical Question Zeugma Juxtaposition Metaphor	**Techniques and Devices that Directly Affect the Development of Tone:** Diction Imagery Details Language Syntax

Are there other devices or techniques that you observe that are working with in conjunction with this device or technique?

[ ]

What effect does this device or technique have on how the meaning is developed or conveyed?

[ ]

Rule 2) Finalize your analytical thesis statement

Parts of the Thesis Statement:

1. The Topic – cite
2. Your argumentative **claim (analytical verb)**
3. Cite Literary techniques WITH ADJECTIVES *(literary devices that affect the development of theme/universal idea)*
4. The Meaning/Theme/Universal Idea

What is the author's purpose?

Advocates	Details	Persuades	Compares	Guides	Responds
Alludes to	Develops	Portrays	Concludes	Highlights	Reveals
Articulates	Differentiates	Preaches	Confirms	Identifies	Revitalizes
Argues	Elevates	Presents	Continues	Illustrates	Shows
Asserts	Elicits	Promotes	Contrasts	Implements	States
Balances	Emphasizes	Propels	Conveys	Implies	Strengthens
Builds	Employs	Proposes	Correlates to	Imposes	Substantiates
Bolsters	Establishes	Provoke	Creates	Informs	Suggests
Catalogs	Expands	Raises	Critiques	Integrates	Supports
Categorizes	Expresses	Recalls	Debates	Lectures	Underlines
Characterizes	Facilitates	Reduces	Defends	Moves	Validates
Clarifies	Frames	Relates	Depicts	Perpetuates	Verifies
Classifies	Gathers	Reinforces			

Other Analytical Considerations. Be on the look out for...

All texts contain **contrasts**, as all texts are constructed around some type of conflict. Conflicts are built on contrasts. Of great significance are *juxtapositions*, so when analyzing seek out juxtaposition.

Contrasts essentially boil down to a conflict between these two basic universal ideas/ideologies:

ROMANTICISM	REALSIM
The ideal world	How it really is
The perfect world	The seedy, gritty, mechanized
The beautiful	The ugly
The true	Falsehood
The pure	The exploited
The innocent	The experienced
The pastoral	The urban

Like contrasts, all texts contain *shifts*. Shifts are when an author makes a change of some type, such as a stylistic change perhaps, which is significant in regards to purpose or in creating an effect. Shifts are not only markers for finding contrasts, but they are a good place to analyze how contrasts are developed within a text. Of great significance are shifts that create *incongruity*. If something doesn't seem to follow – if it's a seeming non sequitur – do not assume authorial ineptitude. It could be the use of incongruity to create an effect, such as ambiguity for example.

FINDING SHIFTS: Often a change in tone will be signaled by...
1. **Transitions** – Transitions may serve to add to, compare, contrast, provide an alternative, summarize, emphasize, pro example, intensify, show time.
2. **Punctuation** – dashes, periods, colons, commas, etc
3. **Stanza and paragraph divisions**
4. **Changes in line and stanza or sentence length**