

Civil Rights: Verifying History Literary Analysis

Reading Standard #9: Compare and contrast a fictional account of a time, place, or character with the historical account of time, place, or character to understand how authors use or alter history.

During this unit, we have been reading historical fiction novels with the understanding that authors sometimes use or alter history to for a variety of purposes. We've learned that sometimes authors *alter* history to create drama or suspense, or to create empathy for what people endured, and sometimes they *use* history to build our knowledge about an important event or to increase our understanding of what actually happened .

Your Task: Write a literary analysis essay describing one way that the author of your novel *used or altered* history, including an analysis of why the author made the choices he or she did. Use text evidence and reasoning to support your analysis, including a summary of what happened in your novel and what you verified (or not) from your research. Use the checklist below to guide your essay:

Introduction: Sets the purpose for your analysis (explains what you are going to say in your essay)

- Lead**
 - Relate to your civil rights historical event... ex. Black panthers, KKK, integration, Emmett Till
- Background information about the text**
 - T.A.G the Civil Rights book
 - 1-2 sentence summary of the major historical event in the book related to your question
- Thesis statement: see planner**

Body Paragraph #1 -Summary and Evidence that inspired the verifying history question)

- Topic sentence**
 - Statement about the novel that summarizes the event
- Summary of the novel (3-5 sentences)**
- Background for the text evidence (2-4 sentences)**
- Text Evidence from the novel that inspired your verifying history question**
 - cited correctly example: (Draper 48).
- Analysis/Reasoning (means)**
 - How did this event inspire your verifying history question?

Body Paragraph #2 - Internet Research with sources

- Topic Sentence**
 - Answer to verifying history question
- Research Notes:**
 - 2 pieces of information found with sources (DO NOT INCLUDE THE LINK)
 - Be sure to include the source (ex. According to the New York Times.....)
- Analysis/Reasoning (means)**
 - What parts of the novel are historical (real) and what parts are altered (fictional)?

Body Paragraph #3 - Why did the author use or alter history?

- Topic Sentence**
 - Why did the author use or alter history? (SEE YOUR THESIS FOR HELP)
- Analysis/Reasoning (matters)**
 - Explain why you think the author used or altered history?
 - What did this history add to the novel?
 - Why is this part of history important?

Conclusion

- Restate thesis statement
- Review quickly the major points of your essay
- Concluding statement connected to your verifying history question
 - End with a reflective closing that leaves your reader thinking and make it your best sentence!

Literary Analysis Essay Sentence Starters (if needed)

EVIDENCE	REASONING (means)	REASONING (matters)	<u>DO NOT USE:</u>
The text states... Page ___ states... According to the text... In the text... For instance, in the text... On page ____	This shows... This illustrates... This demonstrates... It is clear that... This supports...	This matters because... This is important because... This is significant because...	I chose this evidence... The piece of evidence that... My best piece of evidence is... My next piece of evidence... This supports my claim... I think...

Literary Analysis Essay Revising and Editing

Revising

Topic Sentence

- Do your body paragraphs have topic sentences that tell what the paragraph will be about?

Text Evidence

- Is your background information two sentences or less?
- Is your text evidence in chronological order? (Always present evidence in order)
- Are your citations written in parentheses with the author's name and page number i.e. (Hinton 1)?

Reasoning

- Does your reasoning tie back to your thesis statement?
- Does your reasoning explain your evidence (means) and tell why it is important (matters)?

Editing

Formatting

- Have you selected 12 point font that is legible and looks professional?
- Do you have a proper heading in the top right corner?

Name

Date

Period

Civil Rights Verifying History Analysis

- Is your heading single spaced?
- Is your paper double spaced?

Capitalization

- Do all your sentences start with a capital letter?
- Are all the characters names capitalized ?

Punctuation

- Do all your sentences have end punctuation (period, exclamation mark, question mark)?
- Is your text evidence punctuated like this...? "Blah, blah, blah" (Hinton 12).

Spelling

- Have you checked your spelling? Look at commonly misspelled words.
- Are character and historical names spelled correctly (use "Find and replace")?

