

## **Format / Structure of the Analytical Essay**

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The analytical essay is usually broken up into sections. An outline of these sections (not necessarily in this order) would usually include:

I. An abstract of the text which includes any historical background that is relevant to the understanding of the piece.

II. Using the collection of evidence gathered, the writer goes on to evaluate the text in terms of the argument he/she is making. He/she must persuade the reader of his/her point regarding the text through the interpretation of gathered evidence from the text.

III. An evaluation of the explicit and implicit assumptions the author of the original text makes and how these assumptions create other implied arguments within the text.

IV. An explanation of any inherent contradictions within the text. These contradictions can be caused by the author's unwarranted assumptions about his audience or assumptions about the world that are contradictory to that of the analyst. In both sections three and four, the writer should focus on the author's feeling toward his intended audience. The writer may also explore how the author attempts to emotionally appeal to his audience.

V. Conclusion.