

# A.P. Lit. and Comp. April 10th, 2020

## Learning Target:

Students will be able to support and explain an in-depth interpretation of a work of literature (short fiction).

## Success Starter:

Reflect on your work for the short story focus for this week's lessons (*Recitatif* by Toni Morrison). Choose one of the following and write 3-4 sentences to better describe your choice - **character development, theme, narrative structure, or point of view.**

# Writing Strategy Review: Developing a claim and thesis statement.

This strategy may be new to some of you (or just a review of one approach to developing a claim and thesis statement).

1. Take your literary element choice from the Success Starter (**character development, theme, narrative structure, or point of view**). What evidence from *Recitatif* do you have to support this?
  - a. Give textual evidence (quotes or paraphrasing) to introduce and strengthen your literary element evidence.
2. This is the beginning of creating a **Literary Analysis Triangle** as an AP Literature and Composition writing strategy.

# Writing Strategy Review: Developing a claim and thesis statement.

Follow these steps to develop and strengthen your **claim** and **thesis statement** from the short story:

The **Literary Analysis Triangle** shows how to begin formulating your analysis:

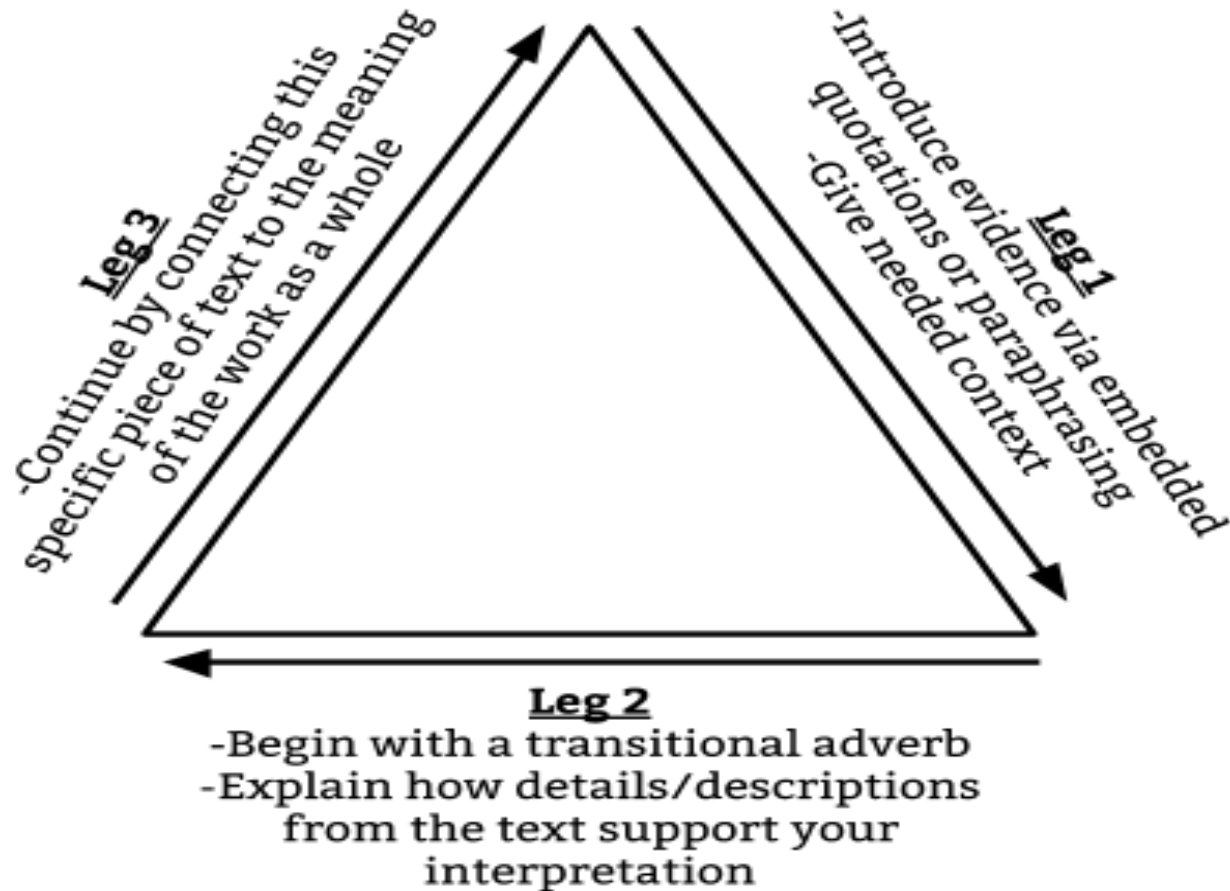
**Leg 1:** A sentence in which you embed the specific words or phrases which you are analyzing, as well as give any needed context.

**Leg 2:** Begin explaining how the specific evidence from Leg 1 supports your claim (thesis).

**Leg 3:** Finish explaining and tie the evidence to the meaning of the work as a whole (theme).

\*\*follow the directions for each leg as you work on your writing.

Here is a visual of the Literary Triangle. Work on your claim, going in order (don't move on to Leg 2, Leg 3, back to Leg 1, etc.) until you have completed each step.



# Examples of the Literary Triangle writing approach

## Example 1 (from the short story, *Miss Brill* by Katherine Mansfield)

1. Sample question: *How does the setting of the Sunday afternoon park illuminate Miss Brill's contended character?*
2. Claim/Thesis: The band playing in the park reflects Miss Brill's contended character at the beginning of the story.
3. **Leg 1**: The first time the narrator describes the band, it is to say that they "sounded louder and gayer" than the previous Sunday, due to the fact that "the Season had begun."
4. **Leg 2**: This description of the musical background at the park immediately sets the scene as being happy and carefree, while at the same time establishing that Miss Brill comes to the park often enough to recognize differences in how the band sounds.
5. **Leg 3**: The band, like Miss Brill, is a constant presence in the park on Sunday afternoons, and their "gay" music matches her happiness at being out for her weekly treat.

# Answers:

Answers may vary. Students can submit their writing practice to their instructor by email or through Google Classroom for feedback, but not for a grade.

# Additional Resources

Information and lessons from AP Literature instructors from around the country -

AP English Literature - [virtual test prep YouTube playlist](#)

AP exams in 2020 will be at-home, online tests. Check [Taking AP Exams Online](#) for more information.

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