SAMPLE EXAMPLE

THESIS: Let's try to order these: 4 is the strongest / 1 is the weakest

In paragraph 6 of chapter 78, Pi uses parallelism and juxtapositions to demonstrate his desperation for balance as a castaway through nature's extreme forces

In chapter 78 of Life of Pi, Pi Patel uses parallelism and figurative language to explore the emotions that one experiences as a castaway.

In Chapter 78, Yann Martel employs repetition and contrasts to highlight the uneasiness of Pi's survival on the lifeboat and uses personification in order to portray a sense of loneliness and futility.

Throughout chapter 78 in The Life of Pi, Yann Martel uses multiple literary devices to convey insightful and deeper meanings while Pi and Richard Parker are out at sea.

ANALYSIS: Same task - can we order these strongest to weakest (5-1)?

He initially notes the purely visual aspect of his immediate surroundings - the sky - by simply exclaiming how "there were many" (paragraph 1). Through direct syntax, Pi establishes the varied nature of the sky as a fact without imparting unnecessary awe. He builds this concept of change and power by using "the sky was" to begin the next eleven sentences. The sky itself becomes its own entity and will shift when need be. Pi is at the world's disposal, despite his will for survival.

Martel addresses the reader through the second-person narration of Pi. When speaking of the struggles encountered while out at sea, Pi, therefore, brings the reader into the moment with him. By reading a story in second-person, a reader imagines themselves feeling what the narrator is describing.

Pi describes his experience as a castaway as being "caught up in grim and exhausting opposites" (216). Pi's choice of syntax, labeling the experiences he has faced as "grim and exhausting," reveals that he is tired of constantly enduring such horrible conditions and unfortunate events, because grim and exhausting are often words associated with negative and unpleasant situations.

Pi's use of diction such as "roared", "whispered", and "thundered" brings the sea to life to some extent, creating this imagery with the sea that has different personalities, just like a person.

Towards the middle of the chapter, the author compares the sun to a "noisy, invasive crowd". The use of the simile gives readers a more accurate view of how the sun actually is. Typically, one may think that the sun gives one the perfect weather for living. Contrary to popular belief, the sun actually rips apart the skin and burns the eyes, which is what Pi honestly demonstrates with the simile. Most people have been attacked by a crowd, so this simile will clearly get the message across for Martel.

SAMPLE EXAMPLE

Now, having identified the strongest thesis and analysis portions from previous student work, reread your own .

THESIS:

How do you feel you did crafting a working/draft thesis or guiding statement?

0 - My “imagination” crashed on the “altar of crude reality”

1 - I “made up for a lack of formal training with an intuitive gift”

Note one thing you’ve learned about thesis construction during our discussion and debrief that you will try to remember in future style analysis assessments:

ANALYSIS:

How do you feel about MOST of your work analyzing this excerpt?

4 - One of the “few times during [this class] when I felt genuine happiness”

3 - “Everything is here and clear” but I have to look a little too carefully

2 - My “gait was clumsy and uncoordinated.”

1 - My analysis was “dry, yeastless factuality.”

Note one thing you’ve learned about analysis during our discussion and debrief that you will try to remember in future style analysis assessments:

SAMPLE EXAMPLE

REFLECTION:
Circle/Highlight a 2-3 sentence portion from a body paragraph of your completed essay you wish was stronger.

REPAIR:
Look at what you've circled or highlighted. Please apply those notes and revise the portion you identified. Strive to make it stronger - not longer.