**7th & 8th Grade Book Analysis Outline**

1. **Introductory Paragraph**
   1. Introduce your novel and topic.
   2. Background information relevant to your essay.
      1. Introduce characters
      2. Give context (you don’t need to summarize the entire novel)
   3. Thesis statement.
2. **Body Paragraph - Topic #1**
   1. First topic / first “prong” of your thesis statement.
   2. Context for your evidence
      1. Briefly describe what’s going on in the novel.
      2. Who says the quote?
   3. Concrete Detail - Evidence
      1. Direct quote from the novel.
      2. In-text citation in MLA format.
   4. Commentary - Elaboration
      1. “So what?”
      2. How does this help prove your thesis statement?
   5. Transition & Lead In
      1. Context for textual evidence #2
   6. Concrete Detail - Evidence
      1. Direct quote from the novel.
      2. In-text citation in MLA format.
   7. Commentary - Elaboration
      1. “So what?”
      2. How does this help prove your thesis statement?
   8. Transition sentence
3. **Body Paragraph - Topic #2**
   1. Second topic / second “prong” of your thesis statement.
   2. Context for your evidence
      1. Briefly describe what’s going on in the novel.
      2. Who says the quote?
   3. Concrete Detail - Evidence
      1. Direct quote from the novel.
      2. In-text citation in MLA format.
   4. Commentary - Elaboration
      1. “So what?”
      2. How does this help prove your thesis statement?
   5. Transition & Lead In
      1. Context for textual evidence #2
   6. Concrete Detail - Evidence
      1. Direct quote from the novel.
      2. In-text citation in MLA format.
   7. Commentary - Elaboration
      1. “So what?”
      2. How does this help prove your thesis statement?
   8. Transition sentence
4. **Body Paragraph - Topic #3**
   1. Third topic / third “prong” of your thesis statement.
   2. Context for your evidence
      1. Briefly describe what’s going on in the novel.
      2. Who says the quote?
   3. Concrete Detail - Evidence
      1. Direct quote from the novel.
      2. In-text citation in MLA format.
   4. Commentary - Elaboration
      1. “So what?”
      2. How does this help prove your thesis statement?
   5. Transition & Lead In
      1. Context for textual evidence #2
   6. Concrete Detail - Evidence
      1. Direct quote from the novel.
      2. In-text citation in MLA format.
   7. Commentary - Elaboration
      1. “So what?”
      2. How does this help prove your thesis statement?
   8. Transition sentence
5. **Conclusion**
   1. *Restate & Reword* Thesis Statement.
   2. Briefly summarize your body paragraphs.
      1. Focus on the key detail of each paragraph.
   3. Closing sentence.
      1. Tie it all together.
      2. Link back to the introduction.