

Writing an Analytical Body Paragraph

Directions: You have matched up your novel and literary examples with the main ideas of your paper. You also learned how to structure the ideas – topic sentence, introduction to quotation, quotation, citation, analysis, etc. – in a body paragraph. Today you will continue to practice how to analyze and explain how your quotation proves your topic sentence (aka: mini-thesis that directly relates to and proves your paper’s thesis).

Part 1: Organize the structure of your ideas. Differentiate between topics by numbering them in order of how you would want to structure your paper. The thesis is listed below – format the structure of your paper in a way that best proves your thesis statement.

Possible Thesis Statements:

1. While Fitzgerald criticizes society’s bias toward minority groups through Daisy’s responses to Tom’s white supremacist outbursts, he fails to morally elevate himself from his characters by including anti-Semitic undertones through Wolfsheim.
Tom’s outburst at dinner
 - Tom as unlikeable from his affair
 - Less educated, but trying
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2. Fitzgerald introduces his characters through physical descriptions of their homes to expose society’s materialistic valuations of people, while simultaneously undercutting his theme by romanticizing Gatsby’s extravagant lifestyle and gestures for Daisy.
3. Fitzgerald exposes the plight of women in 1920s America –social expectations of the 1920s trapped women in unhealthy and unsatisfying relationships while their independence from relationships made them appear less attractive and elicited unsympathetic responses.

Social obligations trap Daisy and Myrtle in unsatisfying and even abusive relationships. (2 paragraphs to represent the different social classes)

- Tom bruising Daisy and Daisy acting like it’s her fault
- Daisy literally being locked in the bathroom, cleaned up, and dressed to be ready for her rehearsal dinner
- Daisy’s discomfort at Tom’s public affairs
- George locks Myrtle in her room to prevent her from leaving him, forcing her to stay in the relationship with him

Relationships make characters appear more attractive (1 paragraph)

- Possibility of Daisy’s relationship makes her worth more in Gatsby’s eyes
- Jordan being engaged and out of reach of Nick leaves him feeling half in love with her

Jordan as superficial and reckless as the other female characters, but she is cold and