*The Little Mermaid* Analytical Essay Introduction, Paragraph and Conclusion Examples

**Essay Question: How does the writer of *The Little Mermaid*****portray the themes of danger,** **death and** **courage** **through the language features used in** **this story**?

The **Danish fairytale** *The Little Mermaid* was **written by Hans Christian Andersen** and **first published** in 1837. This **famous** story follows a young girl’s eventful journey to find her true love on land and the tragic consequences that follow. It is also a masterfully told story that employs **many different language features** to make the **ideas of** **lurking danger, death and incredible courage** come alive for the readers. The language features used include **metaphors, setting and symbolism.**

**Introduction**

A. Use the *formula* for what each sentence of the introduction is **about**:

**Sentence 1:** Year first published or performed, full name of author, name of text and the type of text it is.

**Sentence 2:** What the story is about **in brief.**

**Sentence 3:** List what the ideas are and the language features bringing them alive, in the order of the paragraphs about the ideas.

**Sentence 4:** List some of the language features that are covered.

**Body Paragraphs One, Two and Three:**

**Formula:**

**1. Topic sentence:** States the **idea** that is being focused on in this paragraph and liststhe **language features** that will be covered.**. 2. Example Sentence 1, which includes reference to the idea, the language feature, what is happening at the time and the** quoteworked in. **3. Explain how Example Sentence 1 relates to the question. Paragraph Example 2 and 3: Work in the same way but START WITH A LINKING WORD. Finish the paragraph with a SUMMARY SENTENCE THAT STARTS WITH A LINKING WORD.**

**1.Topic Sentence:** **Andersen uses metaphor, characterisation and foreshadowing** to tell us about the **idea** of **danger. 2. Example Sentence 1:** **To present the idea that danger is very present on the land for the mermaid**, **the** **author** **uses** **a metaphor** **when she first sees the prince,** with her saying ‘dark and foreboding are the trees here’. **This tells us that there is something lurking on land that is threatening to her** (Paragraph Example 2) **Similarly**/**Later in the story (THIS IS THE LINKING WORD)** (then, language feature, idea, example and explanation) **when the little girl first meets her beloved, the creator of the text uses** the **characterisation** of this young man, who is described as‘tricking her into laughing and coming out of the water’,to position us to see that his selfishness is a **danger** to her. **Paragraph Example 3: ……. SUMMARY SENTENCE WITH A LINKING WORD: So/Therefore/Clearly/Subsequently, the author uses language features very well to tell us about the theme of danger.**

After you have written your 3 body paragraphs, you need a conclusion. A conclusion always has emphatic, strong language because you are summing up what you have proved in your essay, make a summary statement about the main ideas you have covered and **finish by making a** **sweeping statement about one of these ideas (you can also work a quote from the text in here if you want)**:

Conclusion: The author, AUTHOR’S FULL NAME, clearly uses many different text structures most effectively to bring these ground-breaking ideas fully alive for the readers and to revolutionise our view of fate. The language features that make this such a powerful story include …, … and … The striking ideas include …, … and … The author unequivocally tells us that danger is something we have to be very careful of, that death is a tragic event that can happen very quickly and that it is courage that can save us all in the end. **The idea that courage definitely saves us in the end is especially important because without courage we not only face certain death but also live in constant, abject fear, as the Little Mermaid did when she ‘turned into a luminous and ethereal earthbound spirit, a daughter of the air’.**

**Now, it’s over to you…**

**Our Essay Question:** Write an essay comparing the different representations of fate that Shakespeare presents through *Romeo and Juliet’s* love story.

Scaffold your essay before you start:

Paragraph 1: Quote 1 and argument: What shakespeare says about fate-

Quote 2 and argument:

Quote 3 and argument:

Paragraph 2: Quote 1 and argument:

Quote 2 and argument:

Quote 3 and argument:

Paragraph 3: Quote 1 and argument:

Quote 2 and argument:

Quote 3 and argument: