**Critical Analysis Template**

In a **critical analysis** essay, you systematically **evaluate a work’s effectiveness** including what it does well and what it does poorly. It can be used to discuss a book, article or even a film. You must read the piece carefully and may need to look up terms or concepts you are unfamiliar with or research related reading prior to writing your essay.

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| **Introduction** | • state the title of the work  • outline main ideas of the article and identify the author’s thesis  • state your own thesis statement and your main idea about the work  **Example:**  The novella, *The Metamorphosis*, by Franz Kafka is an excellent story because the author… The article “Narratives of intercultural transformation” by Ingrid Adams is informative and insightful because the author… |
| **Summary** | briefly outline the main ideas of the article  • should involve who, what, where, when, why and how  • you may also choose to discuss the structure, style or point of view, tone  *This article is about…*  *The setting is…*  *The research was…*  *The main character…*  *The main points are…*  *The theme is…*  *The authors conclude…*  *The author argues that…* |
| **Analysis** | • critically state what you like and do not like about the article  • explain your ideas with specific examples from the article  • assess whether the author has achieved their intended goal  • the analysis may look at whether the work is  ▪ *focused, understandable, persuasive, clear, informative*  ▪ *original, exciting, interesting, well-written*  ▪ *meeting the purpose*  ▪ *well researched, with appropriate conclusions, and more…*  The analysis is made up of several different paragraphs (can vary from one person to another) |
| **Conclusion** | * restate your thesis in new words * summarize your main ideas if possible with new and stronger words   …..or This article is not useful because… |