

## Short Story Analysis Guide Sheet

**This is a guide to help explain what is expected on your answer sheet. Be sure to always format and arrange your work neatly. Head each section in a way it stands out from the rest of the work. Skip a line between each section.**

- I.. Setting – (Set) *annotate at least two pieces of textual evidence for both when and where the action occurs*  
--Identify the time and place the action occurs. Include the context clues from the story that led to your answer.
- II. Characters – (Char) *annotate to identify all characters and any details to support dynamic and or round*  
--List every character who plays a role in the story and then identify them as flat/round and static/dynamic. If dynamic, explain the change. If flat, explain the stereo-type. If round, explain the different traits developing the character.
- III. Conflict – (Ext or Int) *annotate text evidence for one external and one internal, including all details below*  
External--Identify who or what is involved, what the conflict is about, and describe the outcome.  
Internal--Identify who is involved and what he or she is wrestling with deciding in his or her conscience.
- IV. Motivation – (Mot) *annotate for one significant action at least one motivating factor*  
--Identify a major action taken by a character occurring in the story and the factors motivating the action.
- V. Point of View (POV) *annotate text evidence to support either 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> limited, or 3<sup>rd</sup> omniscient*  
--Identify the point of view  
-If it is 1<sup>st</sup> person, identify the narrator.  
-If it is 3<sup>rd</sup> person, simply list it as 3<sup>rd</sup> person. Most stories won't be just 3<sup>rd</sup> person.  
-If it is 3<sup>rd</sup> person limited, tell whose thoughts are being shared, what the thoughts are the person is thinking or feeling.  
-If it is 3<sup>rd</sup> person omniscient, identify at least two people whose thoughts are being shared and tell what they are thinking or feeling.
- VI. Theme (Theme) *annotate one sentence as described below that will support a possible theme*  
--Identify an implied theme from the story and explain how the theme can be related to some aspect of your life, either your behavior, motivation, direction, choices or other aspect. Also, search for one sentence within the text that directly illustrates this theme best.
- VII. Foreshadowing or Flashback (FS) or (FB) *annotate one example from the text for either one*  
--Identify an example of an instance in the story for either one.
- VIII. Irony (Irony) *annotate one example from the text of irony*  
--Identify an example event from the story that illustrates irony.
- IX. Exposition – background info such as characters, conflict, and past events are exposed  
(Exp) *annotate by drawing a line after the text where the exposition ends and the rising action begins*  
--Identify 2-3 pieces of information we learn in the exposition.
- X. Rising Action – main portion of the story where the majority of the action occurs/intensifies and conflicts arise  
--Identify 3-4 specific, major events that take place throughout the rising action
- XI. Climax – highest point of tension, the turning point of the plot.  
(CLX) *annotate by drawing a line where the climax begins in the text*  
-Describe the climactic event of the story
- XII. Falling Action – describes the results of the major events as the action winds down – after the climax  
--Summarize the events taking place immediately following the climax but not in the resolution.
- XIII. Resolution – loose ends are tied up and any remaining questions are resolved  
(Res) *annotate by drawing a line where the resolution begins in the text*  
--Summarize the information the author offers in the resolution