# Five Areas of Analysis

## Note-taking Resource

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area of Analysis:</th>
<th>Questions to Consider:</th>
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</table>
| **Literary Elements** |  ● How does the author’s use of each of these elements contribute to the text’s meaning?  
● How do the different elements interact with or affect the meaning of the others? |
|  ● Setting  
● Characterization  
● Plot  
● Theme  
● Point of View | |
| **Imagery** |  ● What sensory information do I find in the language: visual images, scents, sounds, tastes, or textures?  
● What is the author trying to convey by using this imagery?  
● What figurative language does the writer use? How does it affect the meaning of the text? What is the author trying to accomplish by using these techniques? |
|  ● Sensory Details  
● Symbols  
● Allusions  
● Figurative Language (similes, metaphors, analogies, personification, paradoxes, etc.) | |
| **Attitude** |  ● How does the author’s choice of words, imagery, or details reveal the author’s attitude toward a character or event in the story?  
● What words best describe the author’s attitude toward this subject, character, or event? |
|  ● Word Choice  
● Details  
● Tone | |
| **Diction** |  ● Which of the following best describes the diction in the passage?  
○ Informal  
○ Formal  
○ Abstract  
○ Concrete  
● What effect is the author trying to achieve through the specific type of diction?  
● What are the connotations of certain words used in a particular context? |
|  ● Slang  
● Colloquialisms  
● Jargon  
● Dialect  
● Concrete v. Abstract  
● Connotations | |
| **Syntax** |  ● How does the author punctuate the sentence and how does this punctuation affect the meaning of the piece?  
● How are words or phrases arranged within the sentence? What is the author trying to accomplish through this arrangement?  
● Are there places where the syntax clearly changes? If so, how and why?  
● How does the author use the following:  
○ Repetition  
○ Parallelism  
○ Sentence Fragments  
○ Run-On Sentences |
|  ● Sentence Structure  
● Sentence Patterns | |