

### Strategies for Writing A Literary Essay

- **Start the essay with a thesis statement/claim that includes a theme or important idea from the story.**
- **Locate evidence in the text that supports your claim.**
- **Begin each supporting paragraph with parallel transitions:**
  - **Early in the story, (restate your claim) ... Later in the story, At the end of the story ...**  
**For example, one time ...**
  - **One character ..., Another character ...**
  - **One reason ..., another reason ...**
  - **Or use any other relevant parallel transitions**
- **Elaborate by including specific details.**
- **Link the evidence back to your claim:**
  - **This shows that ... (refer back to your claim)**
- **Conclude by pulling the examples and ideas together and connecting them to your life or to the world as follows:**
  - **Now, as I think about my idea that (restate your claim), I realize that ...**
  - **In my life ... OR In the world ...**