

Outline for a Five Paragraph Literary Analysis Essay Name: _____ Due April 18th, '12

Themes in the novel, *Picture Bride*: Racism, mother/daughter relationship, romantic love vs. friendship in marriage, culture clash in society, and dreams vs. reality.

I. Introductory Paragraph (3 + sentences)

A. **Hook:** Capture the reader's interest. Circle your strategy... definition / quote / interesting fact .

B. Your **connecting sentence:** Use one word from the first sentence in the first part of this sentence. This technique will help make the transition from your hook to your thesis. _____

C. **Thesis:** A thesis is an essay's main idea that also states the essay's subtopics. (Your thesis will contain the topic of your essay (a theme from the novel) and the three pieces of evidence from the novel.

II. First main point: This paragraph will explain how one particular theme is seen in the novel: such evidence could come from one scene, through a character, through a piece of dialogue, or through an event in the novel. Your thesis will have already made it clear which theme you are exploring but be sure to use the word "theme," the theme itself, and the title of the novel in all three topic sentences. (8-10 sentences)

A. **Topic Sentence:** (A one sentence main idea that introduces your paragraph) _____

B. **Explanation:** (Two or more sentences that explain the paragraph's main idea.) _____

C. **Evidence/Support:** Use quotation marks to add evidence from the story. You may also summarize an event or other content, but you should also include a direct quote. _____

D. **Explanation of the evidence:** (In essence,... In other words, ... Events such as these in the novel develop the theme of _____ by...) _____

E. **Closing Sentence:** (In short,... To recap, ... etc) _____

III. Second main point: This paragraph will explain how the theme you chose to analyze is seen in yet another portion of the novel.

A. **Topic Sentence:** _____

B. **Explanation:** (the main idea's explanation) _____

C. **Evidence/Support:** (textual evidence supporting the main idea) _____

D. **Explanation of the evidence:** _____

E. **Closing Sentence:** _____

IV. **Third main point:** This paragraph will explain how the theme is seen in a third portion of the novel.

A. **Topic Sentence:** _____

B. **Explanation:** (the main idea's explanation) _____

C. **Evidence/Support:** (textual evidence supporting the main idea) _____

D. **Explanation of the evidence:** _____

E. **Closing Sentence:** _____

V. **Concluding Paragraph**

A. **Thesis restatement:** Restate your essay's main idea. Use a transition at the beginning, such as *in short* or *to recap*. Do not use *in conclusion*, which is overused in conclusions. _____

B. **Connecting sentence:** _____

C. **Ending sentence:** Circle your strategy: connection of the theme to life in general, what makes this theme so important, how this theme impacts one's life. _____