

## Literary Analysis Observation Chart

This chart prompts you to notice details of a literary work and collect them in one place, where you can pick up on patterns, anomalies, and ultimately the building blocks of your analysis. Scan this list of observations before you read so you're ready to notice them, then read and make note of whatever stands out to you. Collect those observations in left column of the blank chart on the back of this handout. Then, in the right column, reflect on all the possible effects and meanings of the details you noticed—revealing new interpretations of the text and the patterns, connections, and anomalies that will lead you to a thesis statement.

Observations	Effects/Meaning
<b>Structure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Total length, line length, number of stanzas</li> <li>– Sentence, paragraph, and chapter styles</li> <li>– Shape on the page, specific form or genre</li> <li>– Grammar, mechanics, capitalization</li> </ul>	
<b>Style</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Voice and tone of narration or speakers</li> <li>– Mood</li> <li>– Language choices, like diction and syntax</li> </ul>	
<b>Sound</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Alliteration, assonance, consonance</li> <li>– Rhyme, repetition</li> <li>– Words that sound like their feeling/feel like their meaning</li> </ul>	
<b>Imagery</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Scenes you can picture</li> <li>– Sensory: smells, textures, flavors, sounds, visuals</li> <li>– Emotions you take on, can relate to</li> </ul>	
<b>Themes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Connotations, feelings</li> <li>– Symbolism, metaphor</li> <li>– References, allusions</li> <li>– Recurring ideas, actions, etc.</li> </ul>	

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Sound	
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