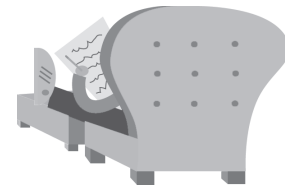


Analysis Frame: Literary Nonfiction**D50****Basic Analysis**

- **Genre**—What kind of literary nonfiction does this work represent (essay, speech, memoir, biography, autobiography, diary, journal, letter)?
- **Subject**—What is this selection about? Identify the topic or issue.
- **Purpose**—Why do you think the author wrote this piece? For example, is he or she presenting information; explaining an idea; trying to persuade; or attempting to capture a person, time period, or concept?
- **Evaluation**—How well do you think the author achieved his or her purpose?



For a close analysis of each type of literary nonfiction, use appropriate questions from the following frames:

- *For biography/autobiography:* Informational Nonfiction, Character
- *For narratives:* Fiction Analysis Frames
- *For speeches and essays:* Informational Nonfiction, Persuasion

In-Depth Analysis**Examine Content**

- What are the main points? The supporting details?
- What did you assume or already know about this topic? What new ideas, information, or perspectives did the selection provide?
- What parts contributed most to your understanding of the subject?
- Does any of the content reflect a particular time or place? If so, provide examples and explore what these suggest about people's values and view of the world at that time or place.

Examine Form and Organization

- What form of writing is this (speech, essay, letter, memoir)?
- What pattern(s) of organization does the author use?

(continued on page D51)

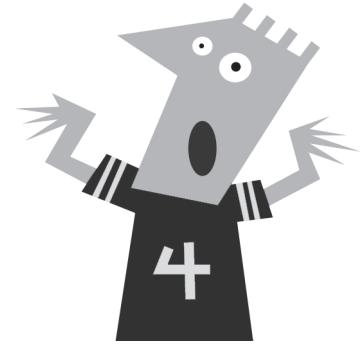
Analysis Frame: Literary Nonfiction (Part 2)

D51

(continued from page D50)

Examine the Author's Purpose and Perspective

- Is the author's primary purpose to inform or explain, persuade, entertain, or express ideas or feelings? Does the author have a secondary purpose? If so, what is it?
- What does the author's writing reveal about his or her values, feelings, beliefs, and experiences?
- If the author's perspective on the topic is apparent, what impact does it have?



Examine the Writer's Craft

- What elements of style does the author rely upon in this selection (for instance, use of personal experience, dialogue, anecdotes, imagery, alliteration, repetition, parallelism, rhetorical questions, or metaphors)? What ideas or messages do these elements help the author emphasize?
- What is distinctive about this writer's use of language? What does the writer's use of language contribute to the selection?

Evaluate and Critique

- Was the subject, topic, or issue adequately developed? Explain.
- Did the author communicate his or her main ideas or message clearly and effectively? Give examples to support your opinion.
- Which parts of the selection, if any, were unclear or hard to follow? What else, if anything, would you have liked to know?
- How did the author's language and style affect you or your understanding of the material? Did they in any way limit your understanding of the selection? Tell which features particularly affected you and how.