

*The House of the Spirits*  
Summary Activities

### **Scene Analysis**

You were to annotate one scene in the text. You were to mark for diction, syntax, imagery, perspective, and tone. You need to write a scene analysis based upon that annotation.

Topic Sentence – What is the theme/point/objective/take away from the scene?

Statement – Statement to support your read of the scene

Support – Textual evidence to document your statement

Commentary – Discussion of how/why support is used – What effect does it create?

=This cycle should be repeated several times

=Textual support needs to be incorporated within your sentences

Summary Sentence – Pull ideas together and return to main point of analysis

=Your analysis paragraph should be 10+ sentences in length

=Scan and print a copy of your annotations

### **Character Connection**

Choose one character in the text with whom you identified. List three points of support for your take.

Topic Sentence

Support 1 and explanation

Support 2 and explanation

Support 3 and explanation

Summary sentence

=Textual evidence should be used to document your response

=Your character connection should be 5+ sentences in length

### **Interview Analysis**

At the end of the story, we see the abuse of power by the military—in the way it enforces the law and censors communication and treats prisoners of war. Recently, a report was released that criticizes the CIA's use of interrogation tactics in order to get information from suspected terrorists. Listen to the following NPR interview with the former deputy director of the CIA. Identify three creative uses of language or logical fallacies that he uses in order to defend his side of the argument.

<http://www.npr.org/2014/12/09/369667274/former-deputy-cia-director-says-torture-report-misses-the-point>

Topic Sentence

Example 1 and explanation

Example 2 and explanation

Example 3 and explanation

Summary Sentence

=Your interview analysis should be 5+ sentences in length

## **StoryCorps Interview**

A big focus in the story is family—the connections between generations, the way we remember our past, the dynamics between family members. StoryCorps is a program that seeks to capture the stories of ordinary citizens who share life experiences in an interview format. You will conduct an interview with a family member of your choice in order to better understand your family's dynamics, motivations, origins, visions.

### **Question Design**

<http://storycorps.org/great-questions/>

### **Example Stories**

<http://storycorps.org/listen/?show=featured>

### **Interview Tips from StoryCorps**

<http://storycorps.org/programs/mli/interview-tips/>

Use your prepared question list, but remember they are just suggestions to get you started.

Trust your instincts. When you hear something that moves you, ask more questions. Sometimes your storyteller will need “permission” to explore a certain topic; you can simply say “Tell me more.”

Feel free to ask questions in whatever order feels right, and don't let them constrain the conversation. Real moments are the best moments.

Look at your storyteller's eyes, not the microphone. Stay interested and engaged

Be yourself; you can laugh or even cry with your storyteller.

Emotional questions like “how does this make you feel?” often elicit thoughtful responses. Don't be afraid to ask.

Be curious and honest and keep an open heart. Great things will happen.

Plan at least 5 questions – focus on how/why questions – use interview to clarify history or explore dynamic or gain insight on your family.

Use an audio recording device to capture the interview – aim for a 3-7 minute interview.

Embed the audio file in your project document.

Include a transcript of the interview.

Provide your reaction to the interview – How did it feel to conduct? Did you learn anything new? How do you feel about what you learned? It should be about a paragraph of development.

## **Neruda Poem**

Search Pablo Neruda poetry. Find a poem that you like. Copy and paste it into your activities. Mark it with document tools for diction and imagery. Give a couple sentences of explanation – What does it mean? Why did you choose it? How does it relate to the text?

## **Secret Wall**

Our story is filled with a number of family secrets—Alba’s true father, Jaime’s work with The President, The Count’s photography room, Blanca’s trips to the river. A website anonymously posts people’s secrets because the webmaster feels that sometimes people just need to express secrets, even if it is to nobody in particular, just to feel better. People submit a notecard with their secret and an accompanying design, photo, visual, or artwork. Each notecard is a totally unique and spontaneous expression of the individual, a way to communicate the private, suppressed, or hidden. Create your own “secret” notecard of an outrageous, traumatic, sinful, silly, sad, weird, or whatever secret about yourself which no one else knows. The secrets may be posted on the board in the classroom.

## **Final Notes**

- =Put all written parts of the activities into one Google doc
- =Turn in the annotation separately
- =Turn in the secret separately
- =Embed the poem in the activities
- =Share document as: HourHouseofSpiritsActivitiesLastName