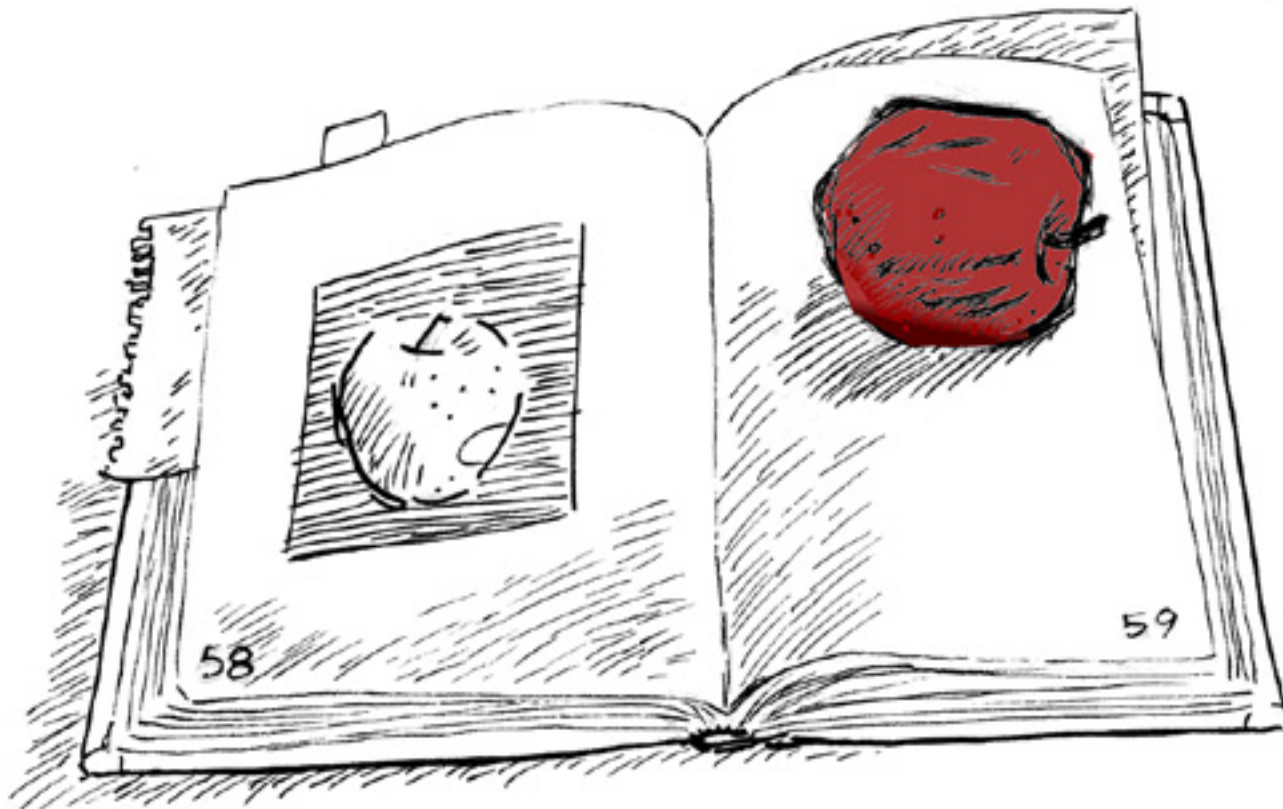


# Analytical Summary

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# Summary as a Critical Tool

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**The use of *limited* summary can help the beginning stages of formal literary analysis.**

*Short* summaries allow the critic to clarify a understanding of the text.

- strategic summaries allow a starting point for building a paper
- in a completed paper, a summary of a full story should be limited to two sentences
- only essential plot elements should be mentioned
- avoid rewording dialogue exchanges or paraphrasing lengthy creative passages

Always keep in mind, the ultimate goal of literary analytical papers is to show a concise interpretation of a chosen story which explains characters' motivations within the cause and effect nature of the plot.

# *Summary as a Critical Tool*

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**To help build patterns with the various readings,** identify the following elements in stories as the class progresses with different examples of literature.

1. protagonist
  2. antagonist
  3. conflict type
  4. protagonist's motivation / goals (journey)
  5. journey type
  6. mode of transportation
- Likewise, be able to back-up your observations with evidence from the story itself.  
Note specific passages and phrases which defend your views.