

## Central Idea Notes -part 3 of exam

- Read and annotate text
- Highlight key words and important words in the first paragraph and conclusion paragraph
- Identify the central idea- what is the life lesson that can be learned from the story/text?
- Find supporting details and evidence to support your central idea
- Pick one literary element - writing strategy the author uses to emphasize the central idea






Theme, mood, tone, imagery,  
characterization, flashback

How does the author use this literary element to develop the central idea?

- Once you have all of the information you can now plan your writing!

### Literary elements

-  Theme
-  Tone
-  Mood
-  Imagery
-  Conflict

-  Characterization
-  Point of view
-  Setting
-  Repitition
-  Flashback

## Model paragraph for Part 3 of exam (text analysis/central idea)

### (Introduction)

The short story, "On the Rainy River" by Tim O'Brien demonstrates how one many discover the person deep inside themselves. (topic sentence) The author reveals he is confused and unsure about the war after he receives his draft letter. (central idea) Throughout the story the central idea of confusion stands out to the reader. (conclusion sentence)

### (Body Paragraph)

Tim O'Brien uses the literary element point of view to develop the central idea. (topic sentence) Tim O'Brien's point of view is

that he thought that going to war was wrong because it's a crime to kill innocent people. (explanation) In line 40, the narrator states "Once people are dead, you can't make them undead." (evidence) This shows Tim's feelings about not wanting to go to the war because he didn't want to kill innocent people. Tim reveals his doubts and confusion about the war and he realizes what happens can't be undone. (explanation) In line 22, the narrator states "I was drafted to fight a war I hated." (evidence) This shows Tim had very negative feelings about being drafted. He was going to have to be a part of a war that he hated. (explanation) Throughout the story Tim's point of view seems to be that he is against going to war but very confused on whether or not he should go to Canada or go to the war. (conclusion sentence)

## (Conclusion)

In conclusion, the author is feeling confused about being drafted for the war. (topic sentence) Especially since it was a war he didn't agree with. The author uses the literary element point of view to show his feelings on his confusion throughout the story. (explanation/key detail) Overall, Tim O'Brien shows his variety of feelings on the war and is clearly confused about being drafted. (conclusion sentence)

\* Do not copy the words in the (parenthesis) These are in the paragraph to guide your writing. Use them to help you plan your writing.