



Julius Caesar An Analytical Summary

Creating an analytical summary of a text deepens and expands your understanding of the text as a whole, including its characters, plot, and themes. An analytical summary should include precise nouns, analytical verbs, and descriptive adverbs and adjectives to both summarize and analyze sections of text.

Precise nouns are effective representations of the person, place, thing, idea, or event that is being described. For analytical summaries, precise nouns are key to conveying the events in the story.

Analytical verbs are verbs that, through their connotations, suggest a motivation or provide more precise description of what the subject of the sentence is doing or of the subject's state of being.

A few examples of analytical verbs are: *illustrates, demonstrates, depicts, reveals, contrasts, highlights, and presents*.

Adverbs modify verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs. These can be single words or adverbial phrases and clauses. Conjunctive adverbs such as *therefore, furthermore, and consequently* will help to create analysis. Adverbs answer the questions *When?, Where?, How?, How often?, How much?, To what degree?, and Why?*

Adjectives describe nouns and pronouns and answer the questions *What kind?, Which one?, How many?, What color?, and What size?* Including descriptive language allows for more precise details that effectively convey the summarized information.

Using the format presented, write a detailed yet concise summary of your section(s) of the text. As you write, focus on including nouns, verbs, adverbs, and adjectives that explicitly illustrate the events and characterize the interplay of actions in the assigned section. Be sure to create a catchy headline or title for your summary.

Color-code the summary, identifying important grammatical elements by highlighting precise nouns in purple, analytical verbs in blue, adverbs that lead to analysis in green, and descriptive adjectives in pink. It is not necessary to highlight *all* nouns, verbs, adverbs, and adjectives; just focus on words that help to demonstrate analysis.

Review the following sample response to better understand this assignment.

Headline	Summary and Analytical Statements
Plucking the Feathers from "Caesar's Wing" (No Fear: 1.3)	Weaker Summary—Poor Descriptive Details Murellus and Flavius stop two commoners, who are on their way to celebrate Caesar's defeat of Pompey. Murellus and Flavius tell the commoners that they should not be celebrating Caesar's return. The two do not like Caesar and think that he has not done anything good for Rome and is becoming too powerful. Stronger Summary—Powerful Analytical Details Murellus and Flavius chastise¹ a group of commoners, who have put aside their work for the day in order to² celebrate Caesar's triumphant³ return to Rome after his decisive³ victory over Pompey. After receiving several sarcastic³ responses from a cobbler, Murellus poses a series of rhetorical questions⁴, suggesting that the commoners are hypocrites⁴ for celebrating Caesar's defeat of Pompey, a man they once revered. Flavius continues to scold the commoners' insincerity and disloyalty and commands them to return home to mourn the loss of the great Pompey. Flavius then suggests that he and Murellus "disrobe the images" meant to celebrate Caesar and artificially inflate his ego. The two tribunes then go to drive the people off the streets in order to deflate Caesar's increasing power, fearing that if Caesar becomes too powerful, they will live in "servile fearfulness." ¹Notice how the verb <i>chastise</i> more accurately depicts the interaction. ²The conjunctive adverb <i>in order to</i> helps to convey the purpose for the action. ³Note how these spicy adjectives add flavor to the summary and more accurately present the circumstances surrounding the event. ⁴Using precise nouns helps to convey what is happening with greater clarity.

RL.9-10.1 Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

RL.9-10.3 Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.

RL.9-10.5 Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it (e.g., parallel plots), and manipulate time (e.g., pacing, flashbacks) create such effects as mystery, tension, or surprise.

W.9-10.2 Write informative/explanatory texts to examine and convey complex ideas, concepts, and information clearly and accurately through the effective selection, organization, and analysis of content.

W.9-10.4 Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience. (Grade-specific expectations for writing types are defined in standards 1-3 above.)

W.9-10.9 Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

W.9-10.10 Write routinely over extended time frames (time for research, reflection, and revision) and shorter time frames (a single sitting or a day or two) for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences.

L.9-10.1 Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

L.9-10.3 Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening.

L.9-10.5 Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings.

Your turn!

Headline	Summary and Analytical Statements
In this column, write a headline like the ones you see in a newspaper. The headline should be a quick indication of what the assigned section entails. Cite the act and scene you're summarizing.	In this column, record your summary of the text. Your summary should be eight to twelve sentences and focus on using precise nouns, analytical verbs, and descriptive adverbs and adjectives. Highlight as follows: Precise nouns: purple Analytical verbs: blue Descriptive adverbs: green Descriptive adjectives: pink