Checklist for a Strong Literary Analysis Paragraph

Context:
● Did you include author and title in the first sentence?
● Is the title italicized (book) or in quotation marks (short story/poem)?
● Did you offer a one-sentence summary that pertains to your claim to help the reader remember the story?

Claim Statement:
● Is your claim clearly stated?
● Are you proving one basic main idea?
● Is your claim easy to find?

Introduce Quote:
● Did you include who said it?
● Did you include whom they’re talking to/about?
● Did you include when/where it occurs in the piece?
● Did you include what's happening in the story?

Incorporate Quote:
● Did you attach the passage to an introductory sentence?
● Did you use a colon or a comma to introduce the quote?
● Did you include the author and page number in parentheses after the quote?
● Is your punctuation correct? Ex: Jethro said, “My mother ate squid every day” (Author 4). Look at where the parentheses and periods are!

Explain Significance:
● Did you explain what your quote means (if there's any confusion)?
● Did you explain how your quote proves your claim?
● Did you use logical ideas to create a cause and effect relationship to clear up any other interpretations?

Transitions:
● Did you choose an order that makes sense for your ideas?
● Does one sentence flow to the next?
● Did you use strong transition words/phrases such as
  ○ An example of ______’s ______ occurs when
  ○ This demonstrates ______ because
  ○ This shows ________ because
  ○ This proves ______ when
  ○ Also,
  ○ Furthermore,
  ○ However,