

The Idiom of Critical Essays

Critical Essay Phrase	Example
SIGNIFICANTLY	<i><u>Significantly</u>, Miss Hunter Dunn thrashes the officer at tennis.</i>
EVOKES THE IDEA OF	<i>Miss Dunn in the driving sea <u>evokes the idea</u> of her bossiness.</i>
IN SOME RESPECTS	<i><u>In some respects</u> this poem is a combination of humour and sadness.</i>
EVIDENT	<i>The <u>evident</u> hero of the story is Marian.</i>
CENTRAL TO	<i>Imagery is <u>central to</u> this poem.</i>
ESSENTIALLY	<i><u>Executive</u> is <u>essentially</u> a poem about snobbery.</i>
FAMOUSLY	<i>Betjeman, <u>famously</u>, disapproved of modern building styles.</i>
ARGUABLY	<i><u>Arguably</u>, this is his most important poem.</i>
PERHAPS	<i>Dickens' <u>Great Expectations</u> is <u>perhaps</u> his masterpiece.</i>
EXPLORATION	<i>This play is an <u>exploration</u> of freedom.</i>
STRATEGIC MOMENTS IN THE NARRATIVE	<i>The reader enjoys the <u>strategic moments in the narrative</u>.</i>
IMPORTANTLY	<i><u>Importantly</u>, the poem ends on a note of anti-climax.</i>
DRAMATIC TENSION	<i>There is great <u>dramatic tension</u> in this short story.</i>
AN EERIE FORESHADOWING	<i>The first defeat, at tennis, is an <u>eerie foreshadowing</u> of their future relationship.</i>
A MOMENT OF SUPREME PATHOS	<i>When Marian fails again it is a <u>moment of supreme pathos</u>.</i>
RESONANT EXPLANATION	<i>Betjeman's hatred of the upper class is a <u>resonant explanation</u> of this poem.</i>
A KEY ELEMENT	<i>A <u>key element</u> of the poem is the sound.</i>
DIFFERENT FROM THE USUAL PROTOCOLS	<i>This incident is <u>different from the usual protocols</u> of the novel.</i>
EMBLEMATIC	<i>The woman's address is <u>emblematic</u> of her social class.</i>
QUINTESSENTIAL	<i>The lady in the abbey is the <u>quintessential</u> snob.</i>
PROFOUND POIGNANCY	<i>The story ends in <u>profound poignancy</u>.</i>