

## STARTING POINTS: ANALYZING STORIES

### A Clear, Arguable Thesis

How can I find a good story to write about?

- Find a story to write about. (p. 456)
- Analyze the story. (pp. 457–60)

How do I decide on a main idea and develop a thesis?

- Determine the writer's purpose and audience. (p. 442)
- Assess the genre's basic features: A clear, arguable thesis. (pp. 443–44)
- A Clear, Arguable Thesis: Getting Beneath the Surface (p. 452)
- Analyze the story. (pp. 457–60)
- Formulate a working thesis. (pp. 461–62)
- A Troubleshooting Guide: A Clear, Arguable Thesis (p. 468)

### A Well-Supported Argument

How do I support my ideas?

- Assess the genre's basic features: A well-supported argument. (pp. 444–45)
- A Well-Supported Argument: Pairing Textual Evidence with Analysis (p. 453)
- Analyze the story. (pp. 457–60)
- Formulate a working thesis. (pp. 461–62)
- Provide support for your argument. (pp. 463–64)
- To build on your support, consider doing outside research. (p. 464)
- A Troubleshooting Guide: A Well-Supported Argument (p. 469)

### A Clear, Logical Organization

How should I organize my argument so that my audience can follow it easily?

- Assess the genre's basic features: A clear, logical organization. (pp. 445–46)
- A Clear, Logical Organization: Coordinating Key Words and Topic Sentences (p. 453)
- Create an outline that will organize your argument effectively. (pp. 464–65)
- Write the opening sentences. (p. 465)
- Draft your analysis. (p. 466)
- A Troubleshooting Guide: A Clear, Logical Organization (p. 469)