

Marker Verbs for Essays of Literary Analysis

*COMMUNICATES

Acquaints
Advertises
Announces
Appeals
Betrays
Breaks
Carries
Concludes
Connects
Corresponds
Declares
Discloses
Divulges
Enlightens
Evokes
Hints
Imparts
Implies
Informs
Introduces
Makes known
Offers
Proclaims
Provides
Relates
Reports
Reveals
Signifies
States
Suggests
Transfers
Transmits
Unfolds

*DESCRIBES

Depicts
Explains
Expresses
Illustrates
Portrays

*COMPRISES

Amounts to
Composes
Contains
Embodies
Encompasses
Holds
Includes
Incorporates

*REVEALS

Acknowledges
Bares
Clarifies
Demonstrates
Discloses
Displays
Elucidates
Exemplifies
Exhibits
Exposes
Illustrates
Manifests
Opens
Sheds light on
Shows
Unveils

*ENHANCES

Adorns
Aggrandizes
Amplifies
Augments
Builds up
Complements
Elevates
Exaggerates
Fleashes out
Heightens
Increases
Intensifies
Lifts
Magnifies
Raises
Reinforces
Strengthens

*EXAMINES

Analyzes
Compares
Contrasts
Dissects
Explores
Investigates
Questions
Probes

*DEVELOPS

Broadens
Enlarges
Expands
Explains

*REINFORCES

Adds to
Backs up
Bolsters
Buttresses
Carries
Confirms
Defends
Emphasizes
Enlarges
Fortifies
Increases
Props
Proves
Stresses
Substantiates
Supplements
Supports
Sustains
Underlines
Underscores
Validates
Verifies

*USES

Utilizes
Employs
Makes use of
Exercises
Applies

*CONVEYS

Communicates
Discloses
Expresses
Imparts
Projects
Relates
Reveals
Tells
Sends

*SYMBOLIZES

Connotes
Denotes
Designates
Emblemizes
Embodies
Epitomizes
Equates
Exemplifies
Illustrates
Likens
Links
Mirrors
Personifies
Represents
Shows

*COMMENTS

Affirms
Asserts
Clarifies
Construes
Criticizes
Discloses
Elucidates
Explains
Expounds
Interjects
Mentions
Notes
Notices
Observes
Points out
Reflects
Remarks
Touches on

*CLAIMS

Argues
Asserts
Concedes
Contends
Establishes
Maintains
Makes a case
Qualifies
Rebuts
Reasons
States

Note: **Bolded** words are most commonly used.