**Analyze/ Analysis**

Don’t panic when your instructor tells you that you need to write an analysis! All s/he wants is for you to take something **APART** to see **HOW** it works.

**To write an analysis, you need to think about how each part of something contributes to the success of the whole.**

CAUTION! Make sure you’re NOT just summarizing the original article, story, novel, poem, etc. Go beyond simply telling us WHAT you are talking about: describe HOW and WHY its elements function.

**Specific Information for Analyzing Literature**

**Analyzing= HOW & WHY**

When you think about analysis, try thinking about how you might analyze a car.

Ask yourself: What do we want the car to do or accomplish?

**Answer: (minivan) “Provide transportation for my family”**

Analysis: **HOW** does each part of the van achieve this goal?

* Gasoline powers the engine
* Seats allow whole family to ride in one vehicle
* Size allows space for people, gear and groceries

**Answer: (sports car) “speed, agility, and style”**

Analysis: **HOW** does each part of the sports car achieve this goal?

* Light-weight construction combined with large engine enable speed
* Low profile and body styling create sporty look
* Suspension helps car handle curvy roads