

# Sample Introduction

Literary Analysis

# Thesis

- In *Lord of the Flies*, William Golding illustrates humankind's inherently evil nature.

# Current Topic

- March 28, 2008: 9 third grade children in Waycross, Georgia plotted to attack their teacher

# Attention-grabber (state a fact)

On what seemed like a typical Friday morning, nine third grade students at Center Elementary School in Waycross, Georgia attempted a plot that would shock the nation. With duct tape, handcuffs, a crystal paperweight, and a broken steak knife, the children planned to attack and kill their teacher (“Experts dubious about 3rd-graders’ plot”).

# Generalize information

On what seemed like a typical Friday morning, nine third grade students at Center Elementary School in Waycross, Georgia attempted a plot that would the nation. With duct tape, handcuffs, a crystal paperweight, and a broken steak knife, the children planned to attack and kill their teacher (“Experts dubious about 3rd-graders’ plot”). According to the Associated Press article on [msn.com](http://msn.com), allegations that the eight and nine-year-old children planned to “knock out, handcuff, and stab their teacher were met with shock by neighbors and with doubt by psychiatry experts who said it is unlikely that children that young seriously intended to hurt anyone.”

# Bridge the gap: introduce your thesis

On what seemed like a typical Friday morning, nine third grade students at Center Elementary School in Waycross, Georgia attempted a plot that would shock adults nationwide. With duct tape, handcuffs, a crystal paperweight, and a broken steak knife, the children planned to attack their teacher (“Experts dubious about 3rd-graders’ plot”). According to the Associated Press on msn.com, allegations that the eight and nine-year-old children planned to “knock out, handcuff, and stab their teacher were met with shock by neighbors and with doubt by psychiatry experts who said it is unlikely that children that young seriously intended to hurt anyone.” Such doubt suggests that society would like to believe in the innate innocence of children. But, are children truly innocent? This question is one that William Golding addresses head-on in his novel *Lord of the Flies*. By demonstrating the savage nature that emerges in a group of British school boys stranded on a desert island, Golding suggests that humankind is inherently evil.

# Source

“Experts dubious about 3rd-graders’ plot.” *msnbc.msn.com*. 2 April 2008. Web. 30 April 2010.

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/23905909/>