Your task is to analyze female characters, and so to support your ideas, you want to give evidence from works of literature, namely the stories that we've read together in class. So you can accomplish this in many different ways. For example, one role that women played in the stories is that of a wife. So you can show what wives did in the story and how they function as both characters in the story and are symbols in a way of how wives might have been seen in ancient culture. In any analysis, you wan to support your claims (conclusions) with evidence. So using the details of the stories and the authors' words (in the form of quotes) show how women (or wives for example) played a role.

Wives that we've seen in our readings include Penelope most recently, Utnapishtums's wife from Gilgamesh, Andromache (Hector's wife from the Illiad), Eve, Rebekkah (or Rebecca) the wife of Isaac in the bible. All of these women (with the possible exception of Utnapishtum's wife are also mothers).

Other examples of women's function might be that of the goddess--we've seen female goddesses in Enuma Elish, the Iliad and the Oddyssey and multiple goddesses. Other ideas would be to show women in the role of a lover/harlot or prostitute (in a sexual way), or as a daughter, or as a mother (as I mentioned above). You might want to combine roles or compare them.

I hope this helps to clarify. Tutors at the TLC are always available to help. As well, here is one of many online sites which outline how to write a literary essay. [https://essaydragon.com/blog/literary-analysis-outlineLinks to an external site.](https://essaydragon.com/blog/literary-analysis-outline%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

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Do you want to learn how to write an A&#43; Literary Analysis Essay? Click here and find useful tips, advice on literary analysis outline, structure, steps of writing process, etc.

Here is another handout that gives examples of fiction and poetry analyses.
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Remember to cite all sources in MLA format. There are some links on Canvas for help. I hope this helps.