English

Literary Paragraph

Follow these steps for structuring your paragraph. When you are finished, use the checklist on the back.

**1. HOOK**

~This is a general statement that relates to the story’s theme or the topic about which you are going to write

**2. Author, Title, Brief Summary**

~Something along the lines of… “The Moose and the Sparrow”, by Hugh Garner, is a story about bullying at the workplace.

~Titles of complete works are underlined; short stories, poems and works that are a part of a larger compilation are in quotes

**3. THESIS**

~This should be based on the question; try to restate the question in statement form.

~If you are asked to write about character, make a general statement about the character. If you are asked to write about conflict, theme or mood, etc., write a general statement about conflict, theme or mood, etc.

~DO NOT go into specific details

~You are giving an overall statement indicating what you are going to be discussing

\*\* If you want to try a more complex introduction, you can try and combine step 2 and step 3, but be sure that you don’t get rid of any essential information! \*\*

**4. BODY – PEE IN YOUR PARAGRAPH**

~You should aim at writing about at least THREE solid points in support of your topic

~If you are writing about character (which in this first case you are), write about three characteristics. If you are writing about theme, write about three different parts of the work and how it reveals the theme (i.e. beginning, middle, end)

~MAKE A CHART! This makes it so much easier because all you have to do is add the “explain”

Point, Example, Explain

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~Your point and example may be in the same sentence. Your explanation should elaborate upon the significance of the quote/reference/example. This is where you show your understanding of the topic. The explanation (or commentary) should be twice as long as the part of the paragraph that presents the reference. Remember quotations should flow as PART OF THE SENTENCE.

~Use transitional words, phrases, thoughts, to guide the reader from one point to the next!

**5. Concluding Sentence**

~Write a concluding sentence which is NOT merely a repetition of the opening sentence, but which makes a generalization about what you have written.

~EDIT!! Use the checklist