10R required essay format

I. Introduction-

A. Hook sentence- a general sentence about the topic you will be writing about used to draw your reader into the essay.

i. Do not mention the following in your hook sentence: Book title, character names, and specific details from the work of literature

ii. Example- if the general topic of the essay is conflict- All literature contains both internal and external conflicts.

B. General information- This sentence(s) is still broad, but can begin to become more specific than your hook sentence. You may also mention the T.A.G(s) of the works you will be discussing as well as specific characters from the works if you choose.

i. Example- Most characters in literature face both internal and external conflicts. This is true for the mothers in Edward P. Jones’s short story “The First Day” and Langston Hughes’s poem “Mother to Son.”

C. Thesis statement- This is the last and most specific sentence(s) of your

introductory paragraph. This sentence(s) tells your reader what your essay will be about.

i. Take a few minutes and work on writing a thesis for your essay! ☺

II. Body paragraphs-

A. Topic sentence- This sentence is necessary to help focus your body paragraphs. Without a topic sentence, body paragraphs often inadvertently slip into plot summary.

B. Example #1- your first textual example that helps to support your topic sentence

C. Direct quotation #1- A direct quotation that helps to support your first example. You must cite each quotation. Example- (Jones 182) or (Hughes lines 8-9).

D. Explanation #1- Briefly explain

E. Example #2- your second textual example that helps to support your topic sentence

F. Direct quotation #2- A direct quotation that helps support your second textual example. Remember to cite!

G. Explanation #2- Briefly explain

H. Closing sentence- Wrap it up and move on!

\*\*You must have at least 2 body paragraphs! \*\*

III. Conclusion paragraph-

A. Restate T.A.G and thesis

B. Summarize your essay’s key points- go back to each body paragraph and try to sum each up in a sentence or two.

C. Closing sentence- final thoughts to wrap up your essay

Tips to remember:

1. No contractions

2. No first person- no I, me, my, us, we-

3. No you, your

4. Write in the present tense- Example- instead of saying: The narrator’s mother fought hard to get her daughter into school, say: The narrator’s mother fights hard to get her daughter into school.

5. Use transitional words and phrases. Refer to resource sheet I handed out.

6. Proofread

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| Underline/Italicize:  1. Novels  2. Book length plays  3. Album titles  4. Newspaper titles  5. Movie titles  6. Names of T.V. shows | Quotation marks:  1. Short stories  2. Poems  3. Chapter titles from a book  4. Article titles  5. Song titles  6. Episodes from a T.V. show. |