**To Kill A Mockingbird Essay Outline Assignment** Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Learning Goal:** We will write a character based 5 paragraph.

**Step One:** **Pick a Thesis Statement**

* A thesis statement informs the reader what your essay will be proving about your topic

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Topic**  **What is the essay about?** | **Thesis**  **What the writer is arguing about that topic** | **Approach**  **Direction for your essay** |
| Jem | Jem displays the qualities of a good big brother for Scout, thus making him a positive role model. | -pick three personality traits that Jem displays in the novel  -you need 2 specific examples for each |
| Atticus | Atticus is an ideal father. | -pick three personality traits that Atticus displays with his children  -you need 2 specific examples for each |
| Atticus | Atticus qualifies as a hero. | -pick three personality traits that Atticus has that demonstrate his heroism  -you need 2 specific examples for each |
| Scout | Scout is an admirable protagonist. | -pick three of Scout’s personality traits that are worth admiring  -you need 2 specific examples for each |

* Pick one (make sure that you can develop three points about it)
* Proceed onto the organizer (separate page to be handed out in class)

**Step Two: Complete the Organizer**

* When you are finished, hand it in

**Step Three: Begin Writing**

* Create a document in Googleapps and make sure you share it with me (and allow me to edit)
* You will write an introductory paragraph
* You will write all three of your body paragraphs
* You will write a conclusion
* Use the provided format:

**Introduction**

1. **Hook --** (an interesting opening statement, famous quotation (cite it!), or definition to catch the reader’s attention AND hints at overall topic – 1 sentence **UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCE MAY YOU USE A RHETORICAL QUESTION!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**
2. **Summary Statement** -- (state the title, the author, and give a brief summary of what the book is about – 2-3 sentences) ­
3. **Thesis Statement** -- what you are going to prove (COPY THIS RIGHT OFF OF THE THESIS PROPOSAL SHEET)
4. **Blueprint --** (identify what your 3 body paragraphs are about)

**Body Paragraphs**

1. **Topic**  (first personality trait)
2. **First Point** (Introduce the first specific aspect of the argument in your own words.)
3. **First Quotation**  (Quotation that proves the point you said you would argue. Introduce the quotation with a lead-in/context. Include a **proper citation – e.g. (Lee 79)**
4. **First Explanation** (Make the connection for your reader between the point and the quotation. **How** do the example and quotation help prove the argument?)
5. **Second Point** (Use a **transition** word/phrase, then introduce the second specific aspect of the argument in your own words.)
6. **Second Quotation**  (Quotation that proves the point you said you would argue. Introduce the quotation with a lead-in/context. Include a **proper citation**
7. **Second Explanation** (Make the connection for your reader between the point and the quotation. **How** do the example and quotation help prove the argument?)
8. **Conclusion** (Summarize the main point of the paragraph **and** connect back to the thesis. Use different words.)

**Conclusion**

1. **Re-state thesis** (starting with a ‘concluding’ transition word, use different words to remind the reader what your essay’s overall argument is– 1 sentence)
2. **Re-state your three characters** (name them -- up to 3 sentences)
3. ­**Closing Statement** (make a final statement, relating back to the idea in your HOOK from the Introduction, and leave with what readers learn overall – 1 sentence)

**Quotation Integration**

**1. Be Smooth**

* Make the quotation a part of the sentence

eg. Scout *declares, “Miss Caroline, he’s a Cunningham”(Lee 20).*

*Eg. Scout wanted to help out: “Miss Caroline, he’s a Cunningham” (Lee 20).*

**2. Be Interesting, Not Boring**

* Remember there are many different ways to say ‘says’.

eg. Scout *reluctantly declares, “Miss Caroline, he’s a Cunningham”(Lee 20).*

**3. Provide proper page references**

* Whole citation in parentheses, author’s last name + page number.

eg. (Lee 20)).

You need to do this for the first quotation in your essay. Any others can be cited with just the page number in parenthesis (20).

**4. Place quotations properly on the page when they are lengthy or contain dialogue**

* Offset quotations that are more than four lines or when two people are talking:

When offsetting quotations (with no two-way dialogue), be sure to (a) indent twice, (b) remove the quotation marks, and (c) put your parenthetical reference *after* the period.

*According to Scout’s way of thinking,*

*I thought I had make things sufficiently clear. It was clear enough to the rest of us:*

*Walter Cunningham was sitting there lying his head off. He didn’t forget his lunch,*

*he didn’t have any. He had none today nor would he have any tomorrow or the next*

*day. He had probably never seen three quarters together at the same time in his life. (20)*

In the “dialogue” quotation, it is safest if you try to replicate the words/phrases as they appear within the text itself, including quotation marks.

“What is it, Jean Louise?”

“Miss Caroline, he’s a Cunningham.”

I sat back down. (20)

**Note**: Avoid long quotations. Only use a quotation that helps you to prove a point. Avoid using long quotations just to help you meet length requirements.

**5. Quoting a Quotation Within A Quotation**

* Place the regular "double" quotation marks at the beginning and the end of the complete quotation, and use special "single" quotation marks for the quote within the quote.

**Example:** “Jem stood in thought so long that Dill made a mild concession: “I won’t say you ran out on a dare an” I’ll swap you The Gray Ghost if you just go up and touch the house’” (14).

**6. Use Other Tools:**

* **[Square brackets]** are used to add words that help the quotation to make sense.
* **Ellipsis** **. . .** are used to indicate that you have removed part of the quotation (remember, the most important part of your writing is your actual words – don’t fill it up with quotations – they play a supporting role only!)

**Success Criteria (Or, how do I know I have done this correctly?)**

* + Does it have a title that is centred on the page and is not the same title as the novel’s title?
  + Is the entire thing double spaced?
  + Does it have a “header” in the top left corner that identifies your name, the course code, the teacher’s name (spelled correctly) and the date?
  + Are the paragraphs indented at the beginning?
  + Is the font in 12pt size in Times New Roman, Arial, or Calibri?
  + Are there five paragraphs?
  + Have you read over the finished paragraphs with your eyes?
  + Have you used the spell check feature?
  + Have you read the finished paragraphs aloud?
  + Have you given your paragraphs to someone to edit?
  + Have you used your earlier writing to help you with this effort?