

## Peer/Self Editing for English 11 Researched Essay

### MLA format

ENTIRE paper is times new roman 12, double spaced with 1" margins on all sides

If there is a title, centered and in plain text (NOT underlined, bold, italic, all caps, etc.).

Does it relate to the primary work or thesis?

On first page only: upper left hand corner has the following info in the following order (begin 1" from top, flush left):

Student name

Instructor's name

Class (English 11, period \_\_)

Final due date (write out the month: April 9, 2018)

Header in upper right corner: last name and page number starting on page 2

Works Cited (centered on last page in regular text)

Entries listed in alphabetical order by author last name or if no author, title of article

Hanging indention

Follow MLA8 instructions

Quotes cited correctly with either (author page #) or ("article" page #)

### Paragraph 1 Biography/Synopsis

Strong hook about the author that grabs the reader's attention

Biographical information is relevant (connected to thesis and/or his writing) and interesting

One quote from the biographical source that is cited correctly using MLA

4 to 5 sentence relevant plot summary of the story

12 to 15 sentences total

### Paragraph 2 Introduction

Transitional sentence to thesis/introductory paragraph is strong

Thesis statement that is strong and clear

Introduces main points/ three sub topics (*how* you are proving thesis)

Each has its own sentence and is clearly distinguishable.

The subtopics are in the order in which they will be written about in the paper

General quote from the literary criticism **integrated** and correctly cited

Ends with strong closing sentence

10 to 12 sentences total

### Paragraphs 3, 4, 5 Body Paragraphs

Clear topic sentence that relates back to the thesis and begins this MP

Topic sentence that is clear and explains which topic this paragraph is analyzing

Incorporates literary analysis (25%) into student analysis (75%)

Strong supporting examples and details with quotes explained/connected/**integrated**

1 primary/1 secondary cited correctly

Examples chosen adequately to support the point being made

All information supports the point of the topic sentence

Clincher sentence wraps up the paragraph

Strong overall flow with transitions used between examples

10-15 sentences total per paragraph

### Paragraph 6 Conclusion

transition from the last body paragraph

a stronger, more emphatic and detailed version of your thesis

how your view of the primary text should change my mind about it or confirm a previously held view

final words (so what? why is this important?) that emphasize the result of the ideas in the essay.

Include a quote about or from the story that is cited correctly and ties in with your main idea of the essay

Do not repeat the paper in the conclusion

## Good writing is clear thinking made visible

Here are things to keep in mind to make your paper as clear as possible while maintaining correct protocol:

**Present tense** for the novel/play/story

Avoid the following:

In the story, in the novel, throughout the play, etc. (only mention the genre in the thesis)

The reader, the narrator, the character

In this paper...

Make sure the paper is in the same order as in the introduction

Use only formal language

Third person only

No contractions

Placement of the citation goes at the end of the sentence

Be sure that the entries on the works cited match up to the citations in the paper.

If the citation is listed in the paper, then it has to have an entry on the works cited.

If something is listed on the works cited, then there has to be a quote in the paper.

Ask someone (parent/peer/good student) to read your paper for you.

Read the paper out loud to yourself to make sure that it makes sense.

Come to clinic for help.