

How to Rock the

Body Paragraph

Topic Sentence

- For this essay, your topic sentence should clearly indicate whether the paragraph is addressing a counterclaim or a claim
- Please don't ever say "in this paragraph"
- Use the scaffolding that I provided for you in the outline!

Quote Integration

A quote by itself should NEVER be a sentence on its own!

- Use the strategies from our quote integration handout to transition from your writing to a quote seamlessly!

Example: **When/Who** Says Something

The Quote Alone:

“What makes things break up like they do?” (Golding 139)

After several of the older kids leave to join Jack’s tribe,
Ralph wonders, “What makes things break up like they do?”
(Golding 139).

Example: State What is Shows/Proves

The Quote Alone:

“What makes things break up like they do?” (Golding 139)

It is clear Ralph is frustrated by the lack of cooperation when he questions, “What makes things break up like they do?” (Golding 139).

Example: Use Their Words to Finish Your Sentence

The Quote Alone:

“What makes things break up like they do?” (Golding 139)

Because the boys cannot seem to work together for rescue, Ralph finds himself asking why “things break up like they do” (Golding 139).

One Quote Integrated 3 Ways!

After several of the older kids leave to join Jack's tribe, Ralph wonders, "What makes things break up like they do?" (Golding 139).

It is clear Ralph is frustrated by the lack of cooperation when he questions, "What makes things break up like they do?" (Golding 139).

Because the boys cannot seem to work together for rescue, Ralph finds himself asking why "things break up like they do" (Golding 139).

Commentary

When you analyze your quote, please don't tell me what the quote already says. Explain how the quote proves your point (without saying "this proves")

Ex: "Harrison was extremely angry" (Vonnegut Jr. 56). This shows that Harrison was angry.

What is Analysis?

Even Ralph and Piggy participate in the killing of Simon as the boys screamed, “‘Kill the beast! Cut his throat! Spill his blood!’ Now out of terror rose another desire, thick, urgent, blind” (Golding 152).

Summary: The boys all work together to kill Simon because they think he is the beast and are scared of him.

Analysis: This violence is out of character for Ralph and Piggy. However, out of fear and the feeling of strength and numbers, the two engage in a mob mentality that ultimately leads to the death of Simon and later Piggy.

Guidelines for Commentary/Analysis

If what follows your quote is only one sentence, you probably don't have enough analysis.

RULE OF THUMB:

Commentary/Analysis should always be **TWO SENTENCES**: one that identifies **WHY THE QUOTE IS SIGNIFICANT** and one that identifies **HOW THE QUOTE SUPPORTS YOUR ARGUMENT**.

Please DO NOT use this phrasing (“This quote is significant because...” or “This quote supports my argument because...”)

Look Again

Even Ralph and Piggy participate in the killing of Simon as the boys screamed, “‘Kill the beast! Cut his throat! Spill his blood!’ Now out of terror rose another desire, thick, urgent, blind” (Golding 152).

This violence is out of character for Ralph and Piggy. (*This is why the quote is significant*)

However, out of fear and the feeling of strength and numbers, the two engage in a mob mentality that ultimately leads to the death of Simon and later Piggy. (*This indicates that my quote supports that we are more violent in groups*)

Your Turn!

Before you start writing your body paragraphs in today's class, review the "Improving Your Academic Language" handout to find ways to improve the sophistication of your paper.