Five Paragraph Response to Literature Outline

• This outline is to be used as a starting point to help you complete your literature response.
• To achieve a 4 on the rubric you will need to focus on the six traits of writing.
• Use descriptive details, powerful word choice, use transitions to connect the paragraphs together, and include fresh original ideas.
• Start with a catchy lead: a quote from the book, a story line, etc. to hook the reader.
• End with a strong clincher ending, wrap-it-up!

Paragraph #1 Introduction: includes a QS (Quick Summary) and Th (Thesis Statement)

QS: The author, ________________________, wrote a/an (genre) _______________ novel titled ________________________________, which took place in/during ________________________________.

(Setting: when? and where?)

Th The main characters (list their names)
__________________________________________ worked together to solve the problem of ____________________________________________

(list the problem)
__________________________________________

while focusing on the theme of _______________________________________

__________________________________________

__________________________________________

Paragraph #2: Characters: One important character in the book is (character’s name) ________________________________.

Physically* he/she is (Give a complete physical description of the character).
__________________________________________

__________________________________________

His/Her personality* could be described as ____________________, ____________________, and ____________________. These three personality traits are exemplified by the following scenes from the book. (You must prove that this character fits your three word analysis by describing a scene from the book that illustrates each character trait you listed.)

__________________________________________

__________________________________________
(NOTE: If more than one character is a main character you will need to identify traits for more than one character!)

NOTE: *physical* character's outside appearance - age, height, build, eyes, hair, handicaps, beauty, health, etc.

*personality traits*: describe a character’s inner personality - brave, cowardly, humorous, romantic, curious, lazy, etc.

---

**Paragraph # 3: Plot:** This refers to the basic story. Stories do not just happen -- they occur because actions cause other actions. When you explain the plot, try to use **cause-effect relationships**. Start with a sentence that explains the basics of the plot, then write about specific events in the story. Remember don’t include everything, just include the big cause-effect moments in the story.

What happens in the beginning?

(Character’s/s’ above) ___________________________________ main problem in the book is

(Describe it in detail, be specific, present evidence)

What happens in the middle of the story?

What happens at the end of the story, how is the problem solved?
Paragraph # 4: **Theme**: This refers to the main idea, views about life and how people behave, the moral of the story and/or lesson/s it teaches. The theme’s usually not stated, you really have to think about the overall story. The theme could be friendship, how to be courageous, trickery, revenge, a big mystery, reverse of fortune: from good to bad or bad to good, etc.

One important **theme** of this book is.

___________________________________________________

___________________________________________________

___________________________________________________

Provide 2-3 examples from the book to support your opinion and why you feel the theme is what you have identified:

1.  
   ______________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________

2.  
   ______________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________

3.  
   ______________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________

   ______________________________________________________

Paragraph # 5: **Conclusion**: Create an evaluation of the novel by forming your own opinions based on the story.

*My favorite part of the book was* (Describe your choice in detail with several sentences)-

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________.
My least favorite part was (Describe your choice and explain why you disliked it)

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

The story made me feel

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

In all, I thought the book was (your opinion) because (your reasons)

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________

Would you read another book by this author or recommend this book to a peer? Why or why not?

____________________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________________