

Lesson Name : 40

Lesson Title : Lord of the Flies Essay: First Draft

Course Name : English 2 Part 2 [Honors]

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Essential Instruction

In this lesson, you will continue to work on writing an analytical essay about the novel *Lord of the Flies*. This essay has three steps. Each step corresponds to a lesson in your eCourse. The steps are:

Step 1: Choose a prompt and create an outline for your essay.

Step 2: Write a draft of your essay.

Step 3: Revise and edit the first draft of your essay to create a polished final copy.

In this lesson, you will complete step 2 of writing the essay.

Step 2 Overview

In this step of the paper, you will write the first draft of your analytical essay about *Lord of the Flies*. This essay is a response to one of these five prompts.

Prompt 1	What does Golding say about human nature in <i>Lord of the Flies</i> ? Is it inherently good or evil? How does Golding develop his message throughout the book? How does this message have relevance today?
Prompt 2	What does Golding say about civilization in <i>Lord of the Flies</i> ? What role do rules and order play in civilization on the island in <i>Lord of the Flies</i> ? What happens when rules and order break down on the island? How is Golding's interpretation of the breakdown of civilization applicable to the world at large?
Prompt 3	What role do masks play in <i>Lord of the Flies</i> ? Consider the symbolic meaning of the masks and their role in the characters' development and actions. What point does Golding make by including this symbol in his book, and how does that point relate to the world today?
Prompt 4	What role does fear play in <i>Lord of the Flies</i> ? Explain how fear helps to develop the characters and conflicts in the book. How is Golding's point that fear controls people's actions relevant in the world today?
Prompt 5	What qualities allow Jack and Ralph to become leaders on the island in <i>Lord of the Flies</i> ? Are other characters, such as Simon or Piggy, more qualified to be leaders? Why don't these characters assume leadership roles? What does this suggest about society's choices about which leaders to elect and follow?

Previously, you should have chosen one of the five prompts and created an outline for your paper, using the outline template provided. Before you begin to work on this lesson, you should open that outline along with any feedback from your teacher. Use this as a starting point when you begin to write the first draft. You may also need access to [Lord of the Flies](#).

Ultimately, you will write an analytical essay that meets the requirements stated in this [rubric](#). However, for the assessment for this lesson, you will simply complete a draft of your essay. What is a draft?

A draft is a chance to get your ideas down on paper and receive feedback from your teacher about anything that you may need to correct before turning in your final draft. It may not be perfect. You may find that you have a few grammatical or spelling errors, that your thesis statement needs to be reworded, or that you need more supporting evidence for one of your points. In a draft, that's OK. You're turning it in so your teacher can explain how to fix these things. That way, you can revise, edit, and polish your work before you turn in your final product, which will be graded according to the rubric.

That said, however, you should always try to turn in your best work.

Since the assignment for this lesson is a draft rather than the final product, you will receive a completion grade for your work. If you do the work, you will get full credit.

What do you need to do for the draft?

1. Write a complete draft of your paper. It must be at least three pages in MLA format.
2. Write on the assigned prompt that you previously chose for your outline.

If you do these two things, you will receive full credit. Remember, though, that for your final draft, you will need to meet all of the requirements in the rubric in order to receive full points.

Writing the Draft

Now that you better understand what is expected for this essay, you can begin to work on your first draft. This section of the lesson will break down and provide tips on how to tackle each component of the essay. You may find that it will help to read through this entire section of the lesson and take notes before you begin to write the draft. You should use the process that works best for you.

When you write your paper, the organization will follow this structure: introduction (one paragraph), body (multiple paragraphs), and conclusion (one paragraph). When you write a first draft, however, it is sometimes helpful to begin with the body, and then go back to write the introduction paragraph. Because of this, the lesson will discuss the body first, then the introduction, and finally the conclusion.

Body of the Essay

The body of the essay makes up the largest portion of your paper. This is the place where you will make your points and support them with evidence from the text.

Before you begin to write, take a look at your outline. In the outline template, you should have notes that correspond to each section of the body of the essay. These notes should act as a blueprint as you write the first draft of the essay. The body of your paper should be multiple paragraphs, but there is no set requirement for how many paragraphs the body of the paper should be. A good rule of thumb is that when you begin to discuss a new topic, you should begin a new paragraph. Typically, in the outline, each main point will be a new topic, or paragraph. Take a look at this sample outline.

Prompt: What is the symbolic meaning of the conch shell in <i>Lord of the Flies</i> ? How does its meaning evolve throughout the book? Why is the conch shell an important symbol in the book?	
Section of Essay	My Notes
Thesis Statement What do you plan to prove in your paper? How do you plan to prove it? Write one sentence that states this without using the pronoun <i>I</i> .	By studying how Golding uses the conch shell as a symbol for rules and order throughout <i>Lord of the Flies</i> , one can see how he shows the fragility of civilization.

Body: Section 1 What is the symbolic meaning of the conch shell in <i>Lord of the Flies</i> ? What evidence will you use to support your point?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conch shell symbolizes rules and order <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Its role in calling meetings ◦ Its role in Ralph's election ◦ Its role in maintaining order during meetings
Body: Section 2 How does the meaning of the conch shell evolve? What evidence will you use to support your point?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The conch shell and Jack's rebellion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Dancing scene; Ralph is afraid to blow the shell ◦ Piggy's continual use of the conch shell to check Jack when he begins to rebel • The destruction of the conch shell <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Roger destroys the shell when he kills Piggy ◦ Jack's reaction correlates to the destruction of the shell (joy at the end of the shell and Ralph's leadership)
Body: Section 3 Why is the conch shell an important symbol in the book? What evidence will you use to support your point?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of the conch shell <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The conch shell is a symbol to both the reader and the boys ◦ It shows the fragility of rules and order in civilization ◦ The rules and order people agree to follow in civilization can be broken as easily as the conch shell

The main points are highlighted in green. Each main point should correspond to one paragraph in the body of the paper. Therefore, this paper will have four body paragraphs.

This serves as a good starting point for the organization of the body of the paper. When you begin to write, you can look at each main point and think about how you are going to develop the paragraph that covers that information.

So how do you get started?

The good news is that each body paragraph in an analysis paper should have certain components. These components are:

Component of the Analysis	Purpose of this Component
Topic sentence(s)	The topic sentence(s) introduce the overall topic of the paragraph to provide focus and orient the reader.
Textual evidence	The textual evidence provides one or more lines from the text that help to prove the writer's point.
Explanation of the textual evidence	The writer explains what the textual evidence shows to the reader to help the reader understand why it is important. This should tie back to the thesis statement.

To better understand this, look at this sample paragraph. This follows the sample outline shown above and correlates to the first body paragraph in the paper. The different components are highlighted to make them easier to identify.

Throughout *Lord of the Flies*, the conch shell symbolizes rules and order. Golding establishes this in the first chapter of the book, which helps to emphasize the importance of this symbol of to the reader. Immediately after finding the shell, Piggy suggests to Ralph that “We can use [the conch] to call the others. Have a meeting” (Golding 20). He also suggests that Ralph be the one to blow into the shell. Right away, this ties the conch shell to two important concepts: first, that it will be used to gather the boys and hold a meeting; and second, that Ralph has the power to do this. It is also the reason that Ralph is eventually chosen as leader: “...the clamor changed from a general wish for a chief to an election by acclaim of Ralph himself ... there was a stillness about Ralph as he sat that marked him out: there was his size, and attractive appearance; and most obscurely, yet most powerfully, there was the conch” (Golding 28). This not only suggests that the conch shell helps to create order on the island, but it also shows a connection between Ralph and the shell. Early on in the book, Golding ties these ideas together in order to create an association between Ralph’s leadership, the conch shell, and order on the island. This early establishment of this symbol is an important part of how its meaning is able to evolve throughout the book.

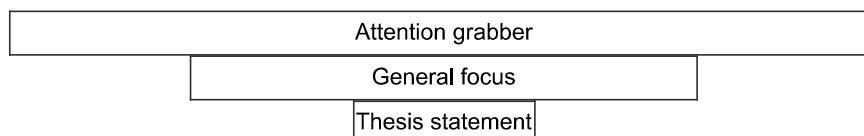
In this paragraph, the sentence highlighted in green is the topic sentence. It identifies the main idea of the paragraph. The sentences highlighted in yellow are the textual evidence. These sentences help to support the main point by discussing events in the book or supplying direct quotations from the novel. Finally, the sentences highlighted in purple are the explanation of the textual evidence. *This is a key part of the analysis.* These sentences are your analysis of the text and show your audience how the evidence supports your points.

When you write your body paragraphs, you should make sure that you have all of these components in each paragraph. It may help to use this highlighting technique to check your work. After you write your body paragraphs, go through and try to color-code the sentences to identify the topic sentence(s), the textual evidence, and the explanation of the textual evidence. Make sure that you have included all three components in each body paragraph and that you have a sufficient explanation of your evidence.

Introduction

Now that you have a better idea of what to write in the body of your paper, you can back up and look at the introduction. Remember, even though you are reading about this component second, it should be the first paragraph of your essay.

Typically, you should think of an introduction as an inverted triangle. Begin broadly and narrow to your thesis statement.



To do this, you should make sure that you understand these three components of the introduction. The first and broadest is the attention grabber. As its name implies, it should be something that grabs the reader’s attention. However, it is just as important that the attention grabber be relevant to the essay and tie in to the rest of the introduction. For example, if you decide that you want to begin your essay by quoting William Golding, make sure that the quotation that you choose is relevant and that you can use it to transition into the rest of your introduction.

There are several attention grabbers that you might choose from for the introduction of your essay:

- Quotation
- Statistic
- Thought-provoking question
- Anecdote (a brief story)
- Controversial statement

You will begin the introduction with this attention grabber, and then transition into discussing the general focus of your essay. In an analytical essay such as this one, this is a good time to introduce the text that you will be discussing. In this case, that text is *Lord of the Flies*. Again, make sure that the attention grabber is related to the rest of your introduction. Your introduction should be smooth and flow naturally.

The final component of the introduction is the thesis statement. After you grab the audience's attention and give them a general idea of the focus, state the purpose of your paper. The good news is that you already wrote a thesis statement when you made your outline. You may need to tweak this statement based on your teacher's feedback and the body of your paper, but it will serve as a good starting place for the thesis statement you will use in your draft.

Conclusion

The final component of this analytical essay is the conclusion paragraph. The conclusion is your last chance to leave an impression on your reader, so it is important to do more than just restate your ideas in slightly different words or copy and paste your thesis statement. While your conclusion is a place to sum everything up, you want to do so in an insightful manner.

A good way to approach the conclusion is to think about the purpose of your paper. Think about the following questions:

- What are the larger implications of your analysis?
- Why is it important that the audience understand your analysis or agree with it?
- How does this analysis contribute to the audience's understanding of *Lord of the Flies*?
- What should your audience take away from your paper?

When you write your conclusion paragraph, these things should be clear to the audience. This is your final chance to make sure the audience "gets it." As you sum up your work, make sure that you really drive the purpose of your paper home and leave the audience with something to think about.

To get a better idea of how all components of this paper work together, check out this [sample essay](#) based on the sample prompt used in the body paragraph section of this lesson.

Final Tips

Now that you have a better idea of the components of this essay, you can begin to write your draft. Remember, your essay should be organized as follows: introduction (one paragraph), body (multiple paragraphs), and conclusion (one paragraph).

After you write the draft, make sure to read through it one more time and check the flow of information. Do you include transitions between paragraphs? Is your sentence structure smooth and varied? Do all of the paragraphs work together to create a cohesive paper? You should be able to answer yes to all of these questions.

When you are satisfied with your work, you are ready to turn it in for the assessment. Remember, your teacher will be looking for the following:

1. You wrote a complete draft of your essay. It must be at least three pages in MLA format.
2. You wrote on the assigned prompt that you previously chose for your outline.

If you have any questions, you should contact your teacher.