

Writing a Formal Literary Paragraph

What is a FLP (formal literary paragraph)?

- A FLP is an _____ paragraph that makes and supports an argument.
- You will be given a topic to discuss.
- Your task is to create an idea based on the topic and to find relevant and supporting examples in the _____ to support your idea.
- A FLP is written using similar techniques to an essay.
- By practicing writing the FLP, you will also be establishing necessary _____ writing skills.

Step 1 – Topic Sentence

- Your _____ **sentence** must inform your reader of **three things**:
 - The _____(s)
 - The _____(s)
 - Your _____

In John Boyne's *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* the character of Bruno is very innocent, but also deeply ignorant.

Important Note

- When referring to titles of books, plays, poems, and articles there are rules you must follow:
 - 1) Underline or _____ titles of novels and plays.
 - 2) Use _____ marks for poems, short stories, and articles.



Step 2 – Make 3 Points

- You want to include a minimum of **three** points in your paragraph.
- The best way to present your points is to use the _____ **structure**.
- You will need to use the ACE structure **three times**.

ACE

- **A** _____ (your point)
- **C** _____ (a quote or paraphrase)
- **E** _____ (explains how your citation supports your assertion)

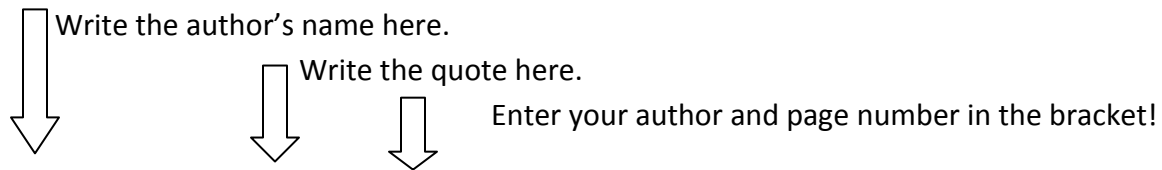
Example

- **Assertion:** Bruno is very innocent and does not really understand what is happening.
- **Citation:** When Boyne has Bruno say “Heil Hitler”, Bruno thinks it is another way of saying goodbye (Boyne, p. 54).
- **Explanation:** This shows how much Bruno misunderstands the situation.

The Quote Sandwich

- Don't forget the quote sandwich.
- Remember that you always need to _____ your quote.

Simply drop your information into the format below.



When _____ **writes**, " _____ " (____), he / she **shows...**

states	illustrates
declares	portrays
confesses	depicts
says	demonstrates

When Boyne has Bruno say "Heil Hitler" (Boyne, p. 54), Bruno thinks it is another way of saying goodbye.

Step 3 – A Thoughtful Conclusion

- A strong concluding statement is extremely important.
- You want to _____ your main idea in a new and thought provoking way!

- Topic Sentence
- ACE # 1
 - Assertion
 - Citation
 - Explanation
- ACE # 2
 - Assertion
 - Citation
 - Explanation
- ACE # 3
 - Assertion
 - Citation
 - Explanation
- Concluding Sentence



Sample Formal Literary Paragraph

In John Boyne's *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* the character of Bruno is very innocent, but also deeply ignorant. Bruno does not understand what is happening around him. For example, when Bruno says "Heil Hitler", he believes that he is simply saying goodbye. *This demonstrates how little Bruno understands and how naive he is.* **In addition, Bruno is jealous of Schmueel because he believes that life on the other side of the fence is better.** He states, "That's not fair at all. There's no one to play with on this side of the fence. Not a single person" (Boyne, p. 131). *This statement further confirms Bruno's misinterpretation of life in the concentration camp. It is not until Bruno ventures onto the other side of the fence that he realizes his assumption is wrong.* **However, even though Bruno's age and innocence can account for some of his misunderstanding, Bruno ignores many key signs that things are not as they should be.** For instance, Schmueel is underweight and always hungry, but Bruno does not really acknowledge this. In fact, he even eats some food that he means to bring to Schmueel. Additionally, Schmueel provides Bruno with many anecdotes of horrible events which Bruno ignores. In particular, Schmueel describes the treatment by the soldiers on the other side of the fence. He explains how horrible the conditions are and expresses his intense hatred of the soldiers, but Bruno always thinks about himself (Boyne, p. 195). **In conclusion, although Bruno's age and innocence can excuse a certain amount of ignorance, ultimately Bruno chooses to think about himself and not what is happening on the other side of the fence.**