Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Class\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

WRITING A RESPONSE

When writing a RESPONSE, you write about your reaction to something you have read. A response STARTS with a one sentence statement of the central idea of the passage. Then, you share your feelings and opinions about the passage. Each opinion, however, must be supported with a quote or idea from the original text.

Strategy for writing a RESPONSE paragraph:

Step 1. **COPY** Copy quotations from the text that you would like to respond to.

Step 2. **RESPOND** For each quote, write a response. A response is your insight, question, comment, or reaction to the quote. Use “Response Starters.”

Step 3. **CENTRAL IDEA** State the central idea of the passage in a single sentence.

Step 4.  **MAKE A CLAIM** State your overall position on the text you have read.

Step 5. **WRITE** Write the paragraph. **The topic sentence for your paragraph should be the central idea of the passage. Your next sentence is your claim. Then, for each of your responses, you should either directly or indirectly quote an idea from the text.**

Step 6. **EVALUATE** Use the attached rubric to evaluate your paragraph.

Step 7. **REVISE/EDIT** If you answered “no” to any question on your rubric, revise/edit your paragraph.

**Step 1-4**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Quotations  On this side, copy the quotation you will be responding to word for word. | Response  On this side, write your response. A response is not a right or wrong answer. Your response is an insight, question, comment, or reaction. |
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| **Central Idea of this Article**  The central idea is the main point the article is making. It can always be supported with details from the text.  Basically, state what the article is about in a single sentence. | |
| **My Claim**  In a single sentence, state your overall position on the text. (I think…) | |

**Step 5: Response Paragraph**

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**Step 6**

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| SCORING RUBRIC | Student Evaluation (If “No” is circled, revise.) | Teacher Evaluation |
| Is the central idea stated correctly as the topic sentence of the paragraph? | Yes No | Yes No |
| Did the writer state his/her overall position on the text in a claim? | Yes No | Yes No |
| Does each response refer back to a direct or indirect quote from the article? | Yes No | Yes No |
| Are response starters used? | Yes No | Yes No |
| Is the entire paragraph written in the student’s own words? | Yes No | Yes No |
| Is the paragraph concise (six sentences or fewer)? | Yes No | Yes No |
| Is the handwriting legible? | Yes No | Yes No |
| Are all words in the response that are found in the original article spelled correctly? | Yes No | Yes No |
| Do all sentences start with capital letters, and are all the names of people and places capitalized? | Yes No | Yes No |
| Is correct punctuation used, particularly titles appearing in quotation marks and correct end punctuation? | Yes No | Yes No |