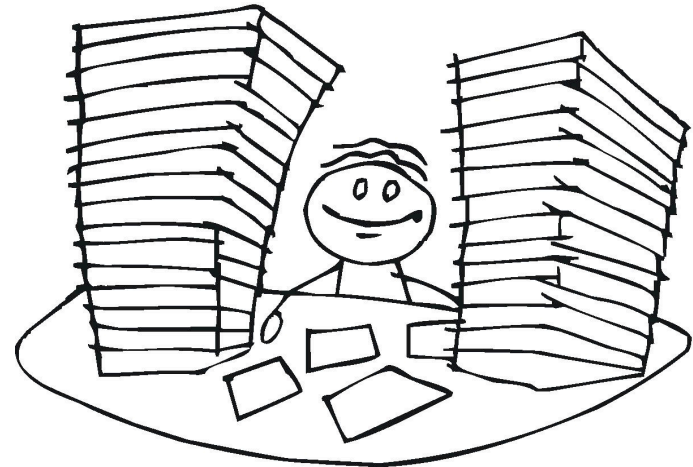


Book Report Essay Questions

For your book reports, you will have to answer two essay questions. Here are some tips to help you write coherent paragraphs.

1. You need enough information for your answers in your essay questions. You should have a minimum of **200 words** for each essay question.
2. All information in your answers must **directly relate** to your questions. Do not include information and/or opinions that are not related to your question.
3. Your answer has to use paragraph structure:
 - a. a topic sentence
 - b. supporting sentences
 - c. a concluding sentence



Essay Question Example 2-1:

If you were a character in the story, what would you have done differently?

When you talk about alternative actions of a character, you must *directly describe 2 actions* and *explain why* you would have done each one differently. You can write one paragraph for each action or you can use a separate paragraph for each action. Since you are explaining hypothetical situations, you need to use the second conditional. Pay attention to the correct use of modals, such as *would*, *could* and *should*.

Topic Sentence

Your *topic sentence* introduces your essay question.

Supporting Sentences

Your *supporting sentences* answer your essay question in detail. You need to describe the original actions of a character, explain what you would have done differently, and a reason for these new actions. Introduce new ideas with a transition, such as “first of all”, “second” and “however”.

Concluding Sentence

Your *concluding sentence* summarizes the main idea of your paragraph. Start your concluding sentence with a transition, such as “to sum up” or “to conclude”.

As the main character, I would have done two things differently in the novel. **First of all**, [describe the original action.] **However**, I would have [explain what you would have done.] I would have done this because [give a reason for your new action.] **Second**, [describe the original action.] **Instead**, I would have [explain what you would have done.] The reason I would have done this is because [give a reason for your new action.] To sum up, I did not agree with some of the actions of the main character, so I would have done things a bit differently.

Essay Question Example 2-5:

*Which incidents in the novel did you find wonderful, surprising, comical or shocking?
Describe the incident and explain why it was wonderful, surprising, comical or shocking.*

When you talk about wonderful, surprising, comical or shocking events, you must *directly describe 3 events* and *explain why* they are wonderful, surprising, comical or shocking. You can write one paragraph for each event or you can use a separate paragraph for each event. Make sure to *choose only one type of event*; for example, explain only wonderful event.

Topic Sentence

Your *topic sentence* introduces your essay question.

Supporting Sentences

Your *supporting sentences* answer your essay question in detail. You need to describe three events and explain why they were wonderful, surprising, comical or shocking. Remember to introduce each event with a transition.

Concluding Sentence

Your *concluding sentence* summarizes the main idea of your paragraph.

There were many shocking events throughout the story, but there are three specific ones that caught my attentions. *First of all,* [describe the event.] The was the most shocking event because [explain why it was shocking.] *Second,* [describe the event.] This was also shocking because [explain why it was shocking.] *Finally,* [describe the event.] This was shocking because [explain why it was shocking.] *To sum up,* I found that I could not put my book down because there were so many shocking events throughout the story.

Essay Question Example 4-1:

How does the main character's life compare to your own?

When you compare your life to the main character's life, you must **directly describe the differences**. You can write one paragraph for each difference or you can use a separate paragraph for each one. Before you answer your question, you need to think of points to compare between your life and the main character's life; these are called **points of comparison**. For example, you can compare your personalities, your relationships, your childhood, etc.

Topic Sentence

Your *topic sentence* introduces your essay question.

Supporting Sentences

Your *supporting sentences* answer your essay question in detail. You need to describe two differences between your life and the main character's life. Make sure you have 2 points of comparison; you have to compare the same differences. When you give opposing information, you need to use the transitions "however".

Concluding Sentence

Your *concluding sentence* summarizes the main idea of your paragraph.

There are three differences between the life of the main character and my life. **The first difference** is [describe point of comparison #1]. In the novel, the main character [describe the point of comparison #1 and give a specific example from the novel.] **However**, this point is very different in my life. [Explain how your life is different and give a specific example from your life]. **Second**, we are also different in terms of [point of comparison #2]. The main character [describe point of comparison #2 and give a specific example from the novel.] In my life, **however**, [explain how your life is different and give a specific example from your life.] To sum up, my life is quite different from the life of the main character.

