**English 8 – Paragraph Activity**

Today we are going to be writing a paragraph. You are going to choose a topic and write a paragraph about the topic. Prior to writing the paragraph, you will be creating an outline using the provided outline frame.

**Paragraph Requirements:**

* Choose one topic to write your paragraph on.
* Paragraph must be 6 sentences minimum.
* Formatting: Times New Roman, 12-point font, double spaced, or blue or black ink.
* You must give your paragraph a title.
* Name/Block/Date in the upper left- or right-hand corner.
* You must complete the outline prior to writing your paragraph.

**Topic Options:**

Choose one of the following topics to write your paragraph on:

* Is it better to be a fast learner or to be naturally gifted at something?  Why?
* If you could cure any single disease, which one would you cure—and why?
* Is the glass half-empty or half-full?  Why?
* Who is your favorite actor or actress?  What do you like about him or her?
* What does it mean to be emotionally intelligent?
* What is the best way for schools to prevent bullying?
* What is the best thing about getting older?  Why?
* What is the hardest thing about getting older?  Why?
* What are you most proud of accomplishing?  How do you feel when you reflect on it?
* What qualities make someone a good listener?  Why?  Are you a good listener?
* Write about something that comes easily to you.  What makes you so good at this particular thing?
* Write about something that you find challenging.  Why is it hard?  What could you do to improve?
* Write about a time when you felt successful.  What did you do?  How did you feel afterward?
* What does it mean to be a part of a community?
* If you could have dinner with any historical figure, who would you choose and why?

**My Topic:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Due Date:** To be completed by the end of class **February 13th, 2023**.

See back for the proficiency scale.

**Proficiency Scale – Paragraph Assignment:**

Pre-Submission Checklist:

Before I turn in my assignment, I have checked to make sure that my assignment is:

* Formatted correctly:
  + Times New Roman/12-point font or blue or black ink
  + Double spaced
* Has a title and header:
  + My title relates to the topic of the paragraph.
  + My name and the block are at the top of the assignment.
* Is the correct length:
  + My paragraph is six sentences minimum.
* Shows planning:
  + I have completed my paragraph outline.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Emerging | Developing | Proficient | Extending |
| Writing |  |  | I can effectively communicate my points clearly, and express my argument. |  |
| Support for Arguments |  |  | I can support my argument with clear evidence that relates well to my topic. |  |
| Outline |  |  | I can create an outline to help me to plan my writing in a way that will keep my writing organized. |  |
| Grammar/  Spelling |  |  | I can proofread my work to ensure that my writing is mostly error free. |  |