**5th Grade Outline/Checklist: Interpretive Essay**

**Introduction Paragraph**

* Engage your readers and introduce the text that you are writing about
* Include the title and author of the book (Book titles are **C**apitalized and underlined)
* Summary of the important events
* The theme that you have identified in the text (Reminder: the theme is the lesson that you believe the author wanted to teach readers through this book)
* The three ways that the author showed this theme (3 examples from the text) OR the three reasons you believe that this is one of the themes in the text—these should be stated **BRIEFLY**
* Voice-Write with personality and a point of view

**Body Paragraph 1: The 1st way the theme is shown**

* Topic Sentence: The first way the author showed this theme is...
* Give specific Text Examples (Quotes) that show the first way the author showed this theme
* You can guide your readers from one text example to the next by using **transitional words** and phrases. Some of these transitional words and phrases include: For example, Also, In addition,
* Explain how each quote teaches the people that read this book, the theme that you have identified
* Voice-Write with personality and a point of view

**Body Paragraph 2: The 2nd way the theme is shown**

* Topic Sentence: The second way the author showed this theme is...
* Give specific Text Examples (Quotes) that show the second way the author showed this theme
* You can guide your readers from one text example to the next by using **transitional words** and phrases. Some of these transitional words and phrases include: For example, Also, In addition,
* Explain how each quote teaches the people that read this book, the theme that you have identified
* Voice-Write with personality and a point of view

**Body Paragraph 3: The 3rd way the theme is shown**

* Topic Sentence: The third way the author showed the theme \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is...
* Give specific Text Examples (Quotes) that show the first way the author showed this theme
* You can guide your readers from one text example to the next by using **transitional words** and phrases. Some of these transitional words and phrases include: For example, Also, In addition,
* Explain how each quote teaches the people that read this book the theme that you have identified
* Voice-Write with personality and a point of view

**Conclusion:**

* Restate and rephrase the theme you identified and the three major ways the author showed this theme in the text (paraphrase, you don't need quote in your conclusion.)
* Connect the theme to real life and comment on how you feel reading this book would or would not benefit other people who read it.
* Wrap up your thoughts in a way that will leave an impression on your readers