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| **The Welcome Back opinion piece** |
| You must complete an organiser on the process outlining what you are going to do before you begin creating the opinion piece. (the organiser is on the following page) |
| Write 5 paragraph 300-500 word opinion piece about one of the topics above   * You must include an introduction. * Three points arguing ONE SIDE OF THE TOPIC * And a conclusion   You must use descriptive written language and transitional words and phrases to break up the paragraphs of your opinion piece |
| **No plagiarism, copying, or cut and pasting please** |
| **First Draft Due: Sept 9 (I will edit your work on this day and only this day)**  **Final Due Date: September 12, 2016**  **Include the completed organiser** |

**Part I Pre-writing (choosing your focus)**

Argue **for** or **against** the following topics. Don’t try to split the difference!

*Note: I am trying to be controversial with the following statements so you can argue for or against. I don’t actually believe them:*

* Marijuana makes you pathetic and boring
* *Keeping up with the Kardashians* is a program for unintelligent people.
* The Kardashians should not be famous
* Video games are a waste of time
* Students should not play contact sports because of the risk of concussion
* Rap (or Dubstep) is not real music
* Skate/Snowboarding is a sport for showoffs and drug users.
* Stores and businesses should confiscate teenagers’ bags in order to prevent theft
* Call of Duty is just tag with a video game system and really kind of boring
* Students who do grad pranks should not be eligible to graduate
* People who watch Sports on television are fools to spend their time and money on such a banal past time
* People who are into role playing and magic are fools to spend their time and money on such a banal pastime
* All hunting or fishing should be banned
* Parents should be able to use corporal punishment on their children
* Or another controversial topic of your choosing (But you have to run it by me)

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| **Introduction or Opening Paragraph Thesis:** | |
| **Generalize**  *Start with a subject statement, a kind of open topic sentence for the whole essay* |  |
| **Justify**  *or give a rationale. Provide background information. Discuss generally why what you are discussing is significant* |  |
| **Indicate**  *the direction your essay will take by briefly stating you main points or arguments in the order in which they appear*  **Protip: Highlight each main point in a distinct color** |  |
| **State**  *the thesis statement of your essay in a clear sentence. Remember this is what you are trying to prove. Everything that you write in your essay should go toward proving your thesis* |  |

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| **Body Paragraph 1 Thesis:** | |
| **State**  *the argument in a straight forward topic sentence. What is your point?* |  |
| **Expand**  *or explain the argument fully so that the reader is clear about your point. This may take a few sentences.* |  |
| **Support**  *Give concrete evidence to sustain the point. This evidence may take various forms* |  |
| **Interpret**  *Tie the evidence back to your topic sentence. Why is this evidence proof of your argument? Make the interpretation clear. Do not assume that your reader will make the connections that you want.* |  |
| **Connect**  *The argument back to your thesis How does the argument further the thesis? Don’t forget you want the reader to be aware of that central idea that you are systematically trying to prove.* |  |

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| **Body Paragraph 2 Thesis:** | |
| **State**  *the argument in a straight forward topic sentence. What is your point?* |  |
| **Expand**  *or explain the argument fully so that the reader is clear about your point. This may take a few sentences.* |  |
| **Support**  *Give concrete evidence to sustain the point. This evidence may take various forms* |  |
| **Interpret**  *Tie the evidence back to your topic sentence. Why is this evidence proof of your argument? Make the interpretation clear. Do not assume that your reader will make the connections that you want.* |  |
| **Connect**  *The argument back to your thesis How does the argument further the thesis? Don’t forget you want the reader to be aware of that central idea that you are systematically trying to prove.* |  |

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| **Body Paragraph 3** Thesis: | |
| **State**  *the argument in a straight forward topic sentence. What is your point?* |  |
| **Expand**  *or explain the argument fully so that the reader is clear about your point. This may take a few sentences.* |  |
| **Support**  *Give concrete evidence to sustain the point. This evidence may take various forms* |  |
| **Interpret**  *Tie the evidence back to your topic sentence. Why is this evidence proof of your argument? Make the interpretation clear. Do not assume that your reader will make the connections that you want.* |  |
| **Connect**  *The argument back to your thesis How does the argument further the thesis? Don’t forget you want the reader to be aware of that central idea that you are systematically trying to prove.* |  |

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| **Conclusion** | |
| **Rephrase**  *and restate the thesis. Be sure not to repeat it exactly* |  |
| **Summarize**  *your main points or arguments* |  |
| **Broaden**  *Broaden – suggest the broader context of your thesis by:*  *Stressing the ramifications, outcome, or greater significance of our findings*  *Move the specific case that you have discussed to the general category to which it belongs* |  |

