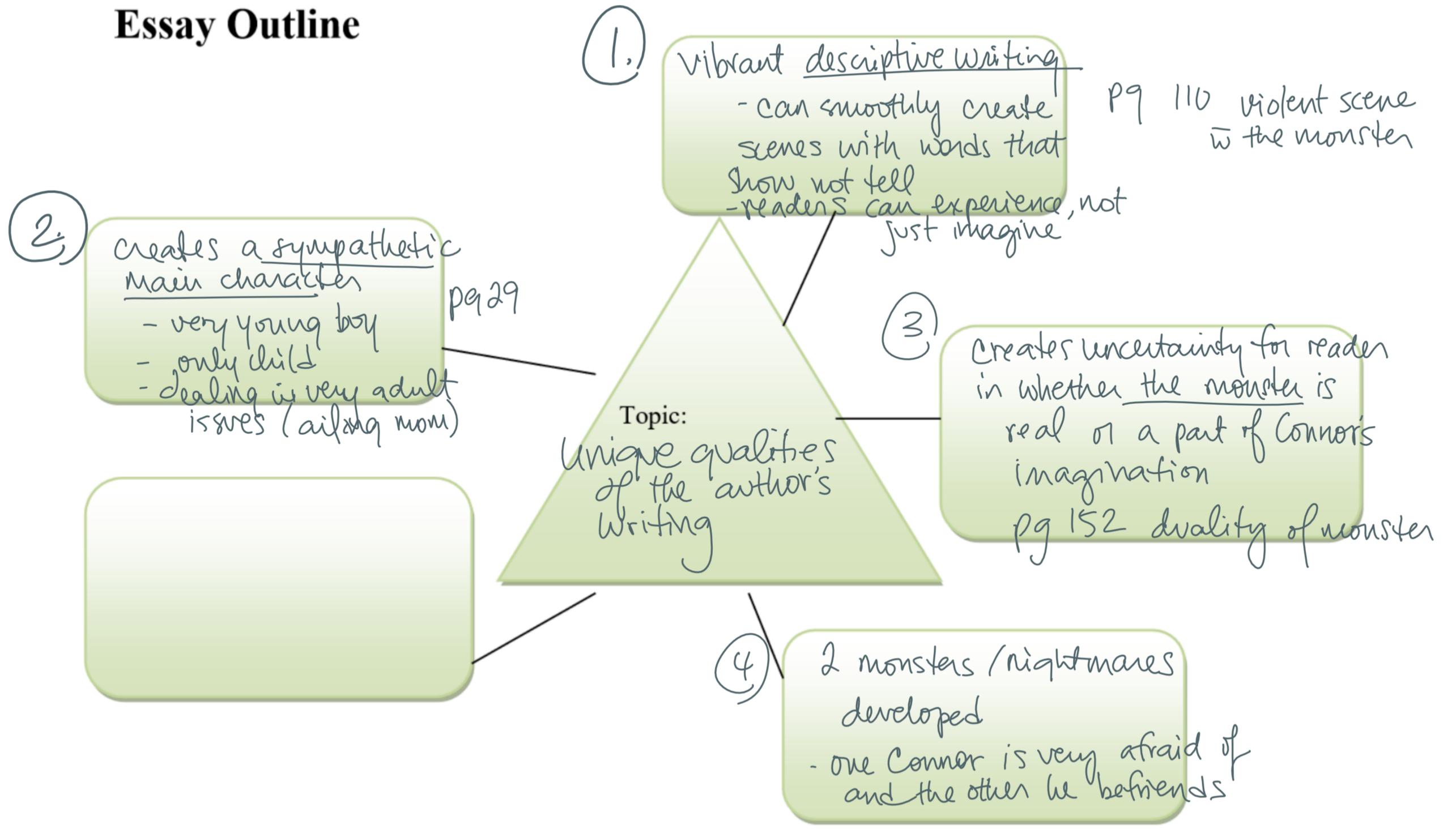


Essay Outline



Topic of Writing:

unique traits of the writing

#1
descriptive writing

Conor could feel his breathing growing heavy again. His heart was racing and that feverish feeling had come over him once more. He waited a long moment.

pg 110

1 OBSERVATION IN THIS TEXT OF WRITING TOPIC

One clear strength of an author's writing is if they can develop descriptive writing.

2 EXPLANATION/BACKGROUND OF OBSERVATION

Using very specific word choices to develop the ^{five} sensory details along with the technique of Show, not tell helps develop engaging descriptions readers can feel, experience and not simply speculate on.

3 WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE STORY DURING THIS MOMENT

The author of this text uses descriptive lang especially well including a tense moment when Connor is contemplating smashing furniture in his grandmother's very neat and tidy livingroom.

4 TEXT EXAMPLE OF YOUR OBSERVATION

The monster standing at his side waits for Connor's command to help or first moment of violence when the author describes Connor's senses saying "his breathing

grows heavy... his heart is racing and that feverish feeling had come over him (110) again.

5 EXPLANATION OF HOW TEXT EXAMPLE PROVES OBSERVATION

Readers can experience the tense sensations of Connor's fight or flight body reaction through these details of breathing and pulse. Even by the variety in the sentence length can readers feel what the character is described as feeling.

6 EXPLANATION HOW THIS TEXT EXAMPLE PROVES THE WRITING TOPIC

Moments like this and many others stand out in this author's writing, in particular, as the sensations of the character's experiences are so successfully developed through the descriptions.

7 SUMMARY SENTENCE - RECONNECT THE END TO THE BEGINNING TOPIC

His use of show, not tell descriptive writing is a primary characteristic for this author and text.

That was the thing. Connor was used to it, too. It was always the second and third days after the treatments that were the worst, always the days when she was the most tired, when she threw up the most. It had almost become normal.

After a while, the throwing up had stopped. He'd heard the bathroom light click off and her bedroom door shut.

That was two hours ago. He'd lain awake since then, waiting.

Topic of Writing:

unique traits of the writing

#2
creates a sympathetic character

- understandable motives.
- vulnerable flaws but likeable
- unfair situation
- treated unfairly

WRITING TOPIC

Another strong element developed by skilled writers is the ability to create sympathetic characters.

2 EXPLANATION/BACKGROUND OF OBSERVATION

Not all characters draw sympathy from readers, but the ones created with understandable motives, who are especially vulnerable in their circumstances, or who are treated unfairly make readers feel more protective of them.

3

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE STORY DURING THIS MOMENT

The main character Connor in this text is a most sympathetic one, created carefully by the writer. Being an only child in a one-parent home of a mother would be isolating enough, but that his mother is battling cancer again with severe symptoms makes this character especially relatable.

4

TEXT EXAMPLE OF YOUR OBSERVATION

Early in the text, Connor gets ready for school by making breakfast, even taking out the garbage and doing a load of laundry, very mature chores for a young boy to do without being asked to. All the while, he listens to his mother's movements until "the throwing up had stopped... [of her cancer] treatments that were always the worst" (29).

5

EXPLANATION OF HOW TEXT EXAMPLE PROVES OBSERVATION

From this example, readers recognize how alone Connor is, not just in being in the house and day-to-day events, but also alone emotionally as his only caregiver is clearly occupied and unable to support him herself right now. And he goes on as normal, doing what he can on his own.

6 EXPLANATION HOW THIS TEXT EXAMPLE PROVES THE WRITING TOPIC

Through no one's fault, the Connor character is left quite vulnerable and shoulders mature responsibilities and fears without a reliable caregiver to support him, making him a successfully developed character readers are quite sympathetic to.

7 SUMMARY SENTENCE - RECONNECT THE END TO THE BEGINNING TOPIC

Other characters may pull sympathy from readers, but the vulnerability and unfair circumstance of Connor's world are especially well constructed by the author.

"You shut up," Conor said.

And he heard the monster's voice say it with him.

Topic of Writing:

Unique development of the author's writing

uncertainty of the monster's existence

Harry leaned forward, his eyes flashing. "I see *nothing*," he said. Without turning around, Conor asked the monster a question. "What did you do to help the invisible man?" And he felt the monster's voice again, like it was in his own head.

I made them see, it said.

Conor clenched his fists even tighter.

Then the monster leaned forward to make it

1 OBSERVATION IN THIS TEXT OF WRITING TOPIC

One of the most effective choices by an author is when they develop secondary characters that are far from standard.

2 EXPLANATION/BACKGROUND OF OBSERVATION

As a secondary character, they are developed to influence the plot development, but most often they exist for the main character to interact with, to have dialogue with, or to push them beyond their comfort zone.

3 WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE STORY DURING THIS MOMENT

In this novel, the Monster character is developed especially well as an important secondary char. He attempts to frighten Connor, but cannot get a fear reaction from him. Instead the monster becomes a needed companion for Connor, though he appears only at certain times.

4 TEXT EXAMPLE OF YOUR OBSERVATION

During school lunch hours, Connor is often bullied by boys at the school, but in one confrontation Connor fights back; it is the day the Monster is with Connor in the lunchroom. The way the author constructs the scene, though, it is growingly unclear if the Monster is real or a part of Connor's mind. Connor "hears the monster's voice say [his words] with him ... like it" [15] in his own head = (152).

5 EXPLANATION OF HOW TEXT EXAMPLE PROVES OBSERVATION

Creating a scary monster as a influencing character in the story is unique enough development by the writer, but to make it Connor's best friend, a supportive companion, and then hint that it may not be real, a figment of Connor's mind, makes the monster character all the more uniquely designed. because in confronting the bullies,

6 EXPLANATION HOW THIS TEXT EXAMPLE PROVES THE WRITING TOPIC

The author balances the development of the scary, potentially dangerous monster with the hard-but-firm companion influence of him making him the most influencing secondary char. of the book.

7 SUMMARY SENTENCE - RECONNECT THE END TO THE BEGINNING TOPIC

Connor's ability to endure and overcome the event he fears most comes down to the original development of the monster character by the author who, interestingly, leaves it for readers to decide if he is real or imagination.

essay focus: unique/original qualities of the writing

Intro Paragraph Writing

1 OPENING/INTERESTING SENTENCE ON YOUR FOCUS TOPIC

Some books gain popularity, not because of an especially fantastic plot but through the development of the story elements.

GIVE SOME BACKGROUND TO THE WRITING FOCUS (FOR A READER WHO WOULDN'T KNOW ABOUT THE TOPIC)

2 Building blocks of the story including realistic characters, vivid and influencing settings, or incorporating a lot of flashbacks and backstory, if developed especially well, can create favourites for readers.

GIVE SOME BACKGROUND TO THE TEXT: VERY BASIC PLOT SUMMARY, MAIN CHARACTER(S).

3 TRANSITION INTO A SPECIFIC TEXT YOU'LL USE TO ANALYZE THE TOPIC: TEXT TITLE & AUTHOR

This is evident in the popular book A Monster Calls by author Patrick Ness.

4 The creative story of a young, only-child named Connor who takes on adult responsibilities while his mother is at the end stage of her cancer battle is creatively enlivened by the presence of a monster meant to scare him but who becomes his primary support and companion.

5 WAYS THE TEXT INCLUDES EXAMPLES OF THE WRITING FOCUS (EXAMPLES 4 & 5 FROM YOUR BRAINSTORMING)

One of the author's especially creative technique in the writing is to develop an overwhelming nightmare that plagues Connor throughout the whole story, always trying to avoid confronting it.

6 THESIS STATEMENT INCLUDES THE 1, 2, AND 3 TOPICS YOU'LL WRITE ABOUT IN THE BODY PARAGRAPHS. (SINGLE SENTENCE)

Three traits Ness develops in the writing making the book so popular are the 1) especially vivid descriptions of scenes and emotions, 2) creating Connor's character as a sympathetic one, and 3) developing a unique secondary character as an unlikely companion who may not even exist.

7 TRANSITION SENTENCE TO WRAP UP THE INTRODUCTION PARAGRAPH - RELATED TO WRITING FOCUS

These developments in his writing and others make him a successful storyteller and writer.