

SAMPLE BODY PARAGRAPH FOR A LITERARY ESSAY THAT DISCUSSES

THE ELEMENT OF THEME

There is a **five part pattern** in the paragraph below: **1**- Topic sentence **2**- Three sentences that discuss and explain the topic sentence (assume your reader has not read your piece of literature) **3**- A direct quoted piece of textual evidence using quotations marks **4**- An explanation of the evidence making it clear what the evidence demonstrates or shows with relationship to the essay's topic and **5**- A concluding sentence. (Transitions are in aqua. Use them to help your ideas sound connected.)

In "Ramayana," a warrior and soon king named Rama endures a violent battle fulfilling his duty as a leader and a husband. Rama charges into battle with Ravana, the evil giant, to save his kidnapped wife. **Next**, with the help of the monkey god, Hanuman, and his brother Lakshmana, a huge battle ensues. **Finally**, Rama suddenly turns to the army of Ravana and destroys them. At one point in the battle, the giant Ravana moans, "These gods, instead of supporting me, have gone to the support of this petty human being." **In other words**, the gods assisted and supported Rama so he could demolish Ravana and reclaim his wife Sita. **However**, his enemy, Ravana, resented the gods fulfilling their own duty to Rama. **In short**, Ravana was very envious and resentful. Furthermore, by fulfilling his duty to his wife, he was praised for his achievement by the gods. **In summation**, even noble heroes such as the warrior Rama must honor their responsibilities by fulfilling their duties in life.