**EE Session 3-4 Statement of Purpose & Research Questions**

Review immediate timeline for completion of tasks for the EE.

For this session, students should have selected a **SUBJECT** and **TOPIC** as well as an **EE FOLDER**

Sign in sheet including NAME, SUBJECT and TOPIC

For next session, TWO items need to be prepared (BOTH TYPED):

**Statement of Purpose**

**Research Question—and identify the various elements (SAT/2POV/ToM)**

The **BUSINESS PARAGRAPH** should be paragraph number ONE (1) in your abstract and either ONE or TWO in your introduction. It explains your “plan” and should contain the following three things:

**STATEMENT of PURPOSE**—One sentence expression of what you intend to cover in your paper (pg. 66-67)

It should be the first sentence in your essay:

“The purpose of this essay is to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_”

1. Compare/Contrast (two pieces of works; two perspectives on historical event)
2. Offer a new perspective on something (Wizard of Oz)
3. Offer an idea of how something has been influenced by something else
4. Test a theory (Spanish Flu—speculation on causes and spreading)
5. Offer a possible solution to a problem (Science)

Examples:

1. History: Compare a primary source view versus a secondary view of the Titanic
2. Literature: Compare coming of age in two novels
3. Visual Arts: Compare selected paintings by Dali and Magritte
4. Music: Compare selected performances of a selected piece by Debussy
5. This paper will present various secondary point of view on the location of Atlantis
6. This paper will explain the architectural influences of Greece and Italy in the greater Sarasota community
7. The paper will offer a possible solution to the problem of red tide in Sarasota based on experimental data

**RESEARCH QUESTION**—expression of potential directions

**THESIS STATEMENT**—expression of the position that you are going to take in the paper

Review: Getting Down to Business

Criteria A: The Research Question (up to 2 points)

The extent to which the purpose of the essay is expressed and specified. The research question should be stated in the early part of the essay and be sharply focused, making it susceptible to effective treatment within the word limit.

Reminder: The research question is at the very core of your paper and will become the basis for more than 50% of your overall score (directly affecting the points you get for at least 6 of 11 general criteria)

1. This should lay out in question for the issue you are planning to investigate in your paper

It also should: Be appropriate for the subject area

Be appropriate for the topic

Lead to a structured in-depth investigation

Be able to be analyzed

Be measurable

1. To ensure that a research question has been effectively formulated, it is best to use the following formula: (RQ = SAT + 2PV + ToM)

Research Question equals Specific Aspect of your Topic plus two Points of View plus Terms of Measurement

1. Sample research questions:

For the sample questions below circle the *Specific Aspect of the Topic*. Underline twice the *Two Points of View*, and underline the *Terms of Measurement.*

How do Emily Bronte and Kate Chopin question the place of women in *Wuthering Heights* and *The Awakening* and how do they reveal these ideas in their use of themes, motifs and symbols?

Criteria B: Introduction (up to 2 points)—See guide for details (p.5)

The extent to which the introduction makes clear how the research question relates to existing knowledge on the topic and explains how the chosen topic is significant, worthy of study, and how the investigation itself will be conducted (check your subject area guide: Approach to Topic)

Examination of an Example Essay

1 Select an essay in the subject area of your choice

2 Turn your Guide to pp 14-16. Compare directions with your student’s work.

3 Look for completeness. Check each element one at a time

**Cover Page** should include:

Shortened Title with School Number and Student Number (upper right)

Page number (upper right)

Title (center)

Heading:

Name

School Number – Student Number

School Name

City, State, Country

Subject: (subject)

Word Count: (number of words)

Abstract should include: Three paragraphs?

Table of Contents: Subheadings?

Introduction: Business paragraph?

Argument: Subsection?

Conclusion:

Bibliography: