English 1 A.M.D.G.

Ms. Herrick

**Writing Assignment #1: Argumentative Paragraphs**

Using your guided notes on proper paragraph structure, compose *two* paragraphs that more fully analyze one of the themes in *A Separate Peace* from your summer reading assignment. You may choose to examine a new theme, but are encouraged to use your original work as inspiration or a basis for this assignment.

**Themes:**

1. Growth and Maturity
2. Friendship and Interposal Relationships
3. Fear
4. Identity
5. Insiders and Outsiders (Inclusion and Exclusion)
6. Competition
7. Reconciliation and Forgiveness

**Before you write, CONSIDER:** How and where is this theme present in the story? Why is this theme important? How do the characters, setting, and events highlight or support the theme and its importance?

**Requirements**:

1. Two complete, grammatical paragraphs. No fragments or run-on sentences (each sentence should have a subject, verb, and a complete idea).
2. Each paragraph must contain a clear topic sentence, at least three supporting sentences, and have a transitional and/or concluding sentence.
3. The main idea of each paragraph must be clear and supported.
4. Each paragraph must show unity, coherence, and elaboration.
   1. Each sentence should support the same main idea
   2. The sentences should be organized and flow together logically
   3. Supporting sentences should provide necessary details
5. Do not write in the first person (no “I” or “you”).
6. You must use at least one quote in each paragraph and no more than three quotes overall.
   1. Cite quotes from the text by placing the author’s last name and the page number in parentheses after the quotation.
7. Your paper must be typed in Times New Roman font, size 12, with 1-inch margins. The paragraphs should be double-spaced.

*Your topic sentences are due, typed, in class on Tuesday, September 6th. You will receive notes on topic sentences in class.*

*The final paragraphs will be due in class and to Turnitin.com on Friday, September 9th.*