**Introduction to OEA Format—Pre-Writing Work**

**O = Observation (What do you notice in the text? What idea will you be discussing next?)**

**E = Evidence (What quotation can you use to support your observation?)**

**A = Analysis (So what? Why is this idea important? How does it help prove your thesis?)**

**Examples:**

* **Topic Sentence:** In the opening scene of the play, Roderigo’s initial moral and loyal character is revealed through a conversation with Iago about his hatred of Othello.

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| **Observation** | When Iago explains to Roderigo that he is only pretending to serve Othello in order to get close enough to destroy him, Roderigo is appalled that Iago could be so manipulative. |
| **Evidence** | “I would not follow [Othello] then” if put in the position of serving a man he hated (I, i, 40). |
| **Analysis** | This quotation shows that Roderigo has more integrity and morality than Iago—he would not be able to put on two faces and pretend to love and serve someone he hated. |

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| **Observation** | When accused of just making trouble because he is in love with Desdemona, Roderigo begs Brabantio to believe him when he tells him that Desdemona has run away with Othello. |
| **Evidence** | “Do not believe / That from the sense of all civility / I thus would play and trifle with your reverence” (I, I, 129-131). |
| **Analysis** | Roderigo seems genuinely concerned about Desdemona’s disappearance, and although he has ulterior motives since he is also in love with her, it does seem that he has good intentions here by alerting her father that she might be in danger. |

**\*\*Conclude your paragraph with a sentence that links these OEAs back to your thesis statement:**

These key moments in the opening scene of the play demonstate that Roderigo starts as a character who can be trusted to remain loyal and moral, but this is no longer true by the end of the play.

**Now it’s your turn! Use the charts below to help you plan out your supporting paragraphs. All three (3) of your supporting paragraphs are due on Thursday. They MUST be written using the OEA format and contain all necessary parts in this order.**

**PARAGRAPH #1**

* **Topic Sentence:**

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| **Observation** |  |
| **Evidence** |  |
| **Analysis** |  |

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| --- | --- |
| **Observation** |  |
| **Evidence** |  |
| **Analysis** |  |

**Concluding sentence linking ideas back to thesis:**

**PARAGRAPH #2**

* **Topic Sentence:**

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| --- | --- |
| **Observation** |  |
| **Evidence** |  |
| **Analysis** |  |

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| **Observation** |  |
| **Evidence** |  |
| **Analysis** |  |

**Concluding sentence linking ideas back to thesis:**

**PARAGRAPH #3**

* **Topic Sentence:**

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| **Observation** |  |
| **Evidence** |  |
| **Analysis** |  |

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| **Observation** |  |
| **Evidence** |  |
| **Analysis** |  |

**Concluding sentence linking ideas back to thesis:**