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ELABORATION IN TEXT-BASED WRITING

OPINION / ARGUMENT

Writing body paragraphs in a text-based essay.

P.E.E.L.



P.E.E.L.	
Point	What point are you trying to make? Write your point.
Evidence From Text	What evidence from text will you use to support this point? Expert, Statistic, Direct Quote, Definition, Description, Example
Elaboration On the Evidence	What can you say about the evidence? Use one of the evidence-based elaborations below to provide more support to your opinion/argument.

TYPES OF EVIDENCE-BASED ELABORATIONS (Combine elaboration types to make your paper more effective.)

Type	Description	Example
EXPLANATION	Explain the evidence. <i>Often used when a direct quote is given.</i>	Evidence: According to the authors, Africa lost more than 60% of its elephants to poachers over the last ten years. Elaboration: That is more than half of all the elephants in the country and at that speed elephants could die out.
EVALUATION	Evaluate the evidence <u>based on other facts in the passages.</u>	Evidence: Surveys indicate that many citizens do not even realize that the elephants die when poachers get the ivory. Elaboration: This is not a good enough reason to let this practice continue. Groups like CITE teaches the facts to countries like China.
DEFINITION	Provide a definition of a term, process or idea found in the evidence to help your reader better understand the evidence.	Evidence: Colony collapse disorder (CDD) is one possible reason why honeybees are disappearing. Elaboration: Colony collapse disorder is when bees leave their nest but never return. Scientist think there might be something causing this but are not sure.
ANALYZE (Compare)	Provide a comparison to the evidence.	Evidence: As the polar ice melts, polar bears become less afraid of humans as they look for food. Elaboration: The photo on the page shows a polar bear trying to get into a truck. As their habitat disappears, they find food wherever they can.
ANALYZE (Prediction)	Analyze the evidence and make a likely prediction based on evidence in the text.	Evidence: Colony collapse disorder (CDD) is one possible reason why honeybees are disappearing. Elaboration: If this continues to happen and bees keep leaving their hives, crops will fail and this will cost farmers millions of dollars.
ANALYZE (Cause and Effect Relationships)	Analyze the evidence to show a likely cause and effect relationship.	Evidence: Experts say that the coral reefs are disappearing. Elaboration: Clown fish who live in the reef will be in danger if this change in their habitat keeps happening.



P.E.E.L.

Write the point you are making.

P

Write the evidence you are using.

E

Elaborate on the evidence. Explain your evidence.

EL