**EFP 12 Novel Essay Outline**

**Step One: Writing a good thesis statement.**

A good thesis statement is the roadmap for your entire essay. If you don’t know the main point you are trying to make, then it will be almost impossible to find evidence to support your argument and to then organize that evidence in coherent way.

**A good thesis has a topic, position, and rationale.**

Example:

TOPIC: Hufflepuffs

TOPIC + POSITION: Hufflepuffs make the best friends

TOPIC + POSITION + RATIONALE (Think of this as the "because" step): Hufflepuffs make the best friends because they are accepting and loyal.

Another example:

TOPIC: The movie “Rabbit Proof Fence”

TOPIC + POSITION: Resilience and healing are demonstrated in the movie “Rabbit Proof Fence”

TOPIC + POSITION + RATIONALE: Resilience and healing are demonstrated in the movie “Rabbit Proof Fence” though the determination of the main characters to overcome the challenges they face. (These challenges include their removal from their families, the racism of the Moore River Resettlement Camp, and the incredibly long journey they must survive to make it home.)

Your topic: (Novel)

Topic + position (Resilience and/or healing is demonstrated in your novel)

Topic + position + rationale (what evidence from the novel proves that resilience and/or healing is demonstrated?)

Write your thesis statement below: (include novel title and author)