**The Five Paragraph Essay**

**Introduction (3 sentences minimum):**

1.Pulls the reader in with a hook (interesting way to start the essay), use a quote related to your topic, a metaphor or image, a question or a story

2. States your argument (thesis) and the points you will use to defend your argument (blueprint)

3. Has a brief summary (one sentence maximum) of each story. Make sure you have the title and author included for each story

**Body Paragraphs**

1. Usually there are 3
2. They expand the ideas you mentioned in your blueprint
3. They explain how each example fits your thesis
4. Each paragraph has a topic sentence and a conclusion and uses transition words to move from one idea to the next

**Conclusion (usually 3 sentences, but in grade 9 one strong sentence will be fine)**

1. Recaps your argument (thesis) in different words
2. Review the blueprint (how you defended your argument)
3. Ends with a final thought on your topic

**Essay Rules**

1. In Third Person only (no In my opinion or I think or you)
2. In present tense
3. No informal words (ie stupid/kids/guys etc.)