**Write An Informative Article: Practice Using Main Idea and Supporting Details**

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Learning Target:** I can write an informative article with a clear thesis that is supported and developed with supporting details (and formatted in MLA).

**Activity Description:** Now that we have examined an article for its thesis, main idea and supporting details, we will move on to *using* these concepts ourselves. You will be choosing an activity, place or thing that you know a lot about and then writing an informative article that provides enough detail for the reader to learn more about your topic. You will do some minor research to support your thesis.

Step 1: Brainstorm

*Brainstorm a list of three to five activities, places, or things that you know a lot about. Then, circle the three that you think you know the MOST about. It is important to choose a topic that you feel confident and informed on.*

Step 2: Expanding On Details

*For the three possible topics you selected, list a bunch of things you know about it. What details do you know about this topic?*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Topic 1: | Topic 2: | Topic 3: |
| Details I know: | Details I know: | Details I know: |

Step 3: Choose Your Topic

*Now that you have identified details of possible topics, you will have to select one to write about. You may want to consider which of them was the easiest to come up with information about. You may also want to consider which one you enjoy more. Write the topic you are choosing below.*

Step 4: Prepare to Write Thesis

*Before you actually write the thesis, you need to figure out what you want to say about your topic. For example, if you are writing about your Grandma’s house, you will want to say something ABOUT it in your thesis, “Grandma’s kitchen is a place where I feel safe and loved.” Below, make a list of words, phrases, or sentences that describe your thoughts and feelings. Do you feel happy or sad? Relaxed or calm? Enthusiastic or energized? Challenged or creative? List as much as you can below:*

Step 5: Write your Thesis

*Use the above list to write your thesis statement using no more than two sentences. Remember, this one (or two) sentence is what your entire article will be about.*

Step 6: Create an OUTLINE with Main Ideas & Details

*Using the attached sample outline as a guide, create an outline for your informative article.*

**Article Requirements:**

**\_\_\_\_Thesis Statement, Clear Main Ideas, Supporting Details**

**\_\_\_\_Formated in MLA (Header, Title, Size 12 font, Times New Roman or Arial)**

**\_\_\_\_ Clear Topic Sentences and Transitions**

**\_\_\_\_ Introduction (Hook & Thesis)**

**\_\_\_\_ Conclusion (Restate Thesis, Summarize Body, Closing Statement)**

**\_\_\_\_ Minimum of two quotes from an outside source or outside sources (An article, an interview, etc.)**

**(This last requirement is to practice using evidence, the citing of your evidence should be attempted, but it will not be graded.)**