The Bean Trees Lit Analysis essay—must be turned in to www.turnitin.com

*5 paragraph essay.*

* ***Throughout the essay, you must use 6 CDs and 12 CMs; the order and placement is up to you.***
* *Essay must includes a clear thesis at the end of the intro paragraph that lays out what you intend to detail with the body of your essay.*
* *All body paragraphs must be a minimum of 8 sentences.*
* *Each body paragraph must contain direct quotes, imbedded quotes* ***or*** *paraphrasing. Include a page citation at the end of each piece of evidence from the novel.* ***You must use both quotes and paraphrases within the paper.***
* *Must use transitions and links with evidence—(remember TLQ, now it’s TLEvidence)*
* *Eliminate all fragments and run-ons. Use a variety of sentence length and structure.*
* *Must be written in 3rd person—no I, me, you, your, etc.*
* *Do not use the phrases “in this essay” or “I will write about” or “In conclusion”; avoid the phrases, “I think”, “I believe” or “in my opinion”… it weakens you as an authority.*
* *Minimum essay length, 2 pages typed, double spaced, 12 point font, 1” margins: top, bottom, and sides.*

Thesis (A succinct sentence outlining what you will prove in the body paragraphs):

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Topic of Body Paragraph 1—\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Evidence #1: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Evidence #2: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If you have more evidence you want to include:

Topic of Body Paragraph 2—\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Evidence #1: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Evidence #2: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If you have more evidence you want to include:

Topic of Body Paragraph 3—\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Evidence #1: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Evidence #2: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If you have more evidence you want to include:

Reminder how to write an introductory paragraph:

Step 1 = Hook (open ended question that does not include the word YOU, provocative statement meant to get a reaction, a quote from someone famous that relates to the topic, statistic, anecdote). For this essay, I would avoid the anecdote or mini story.

Step 2 (the hardest part of an intro) is the bridge between the hook and talking about the lit. Here, you introduce the topic of the essay in general terms without mentioning the book or its characters.

Step 3 = lit summary. Tell your audience you are referencing a story. Provide author and title, main character and plot summary. Spend 2-3 sentences of what overall happens in the book so the reader has a basic understanding.

Step 4 = Thesis statement. You’ve already written this. Copy it down in its home at the end of the intro.

Sample intro paragraph:

Prompt: In *The Bean Trees,* Estevan says we "believe that if something terrible happens to someone, they must have deserved it". Is it true that we are not very compassionate about the plight of others? Show examples of this in *The Bean Trees* and compare and contrast it with life in America today.

“It’s the parents’ fault!” This is the statement that is bandied about after a teenager loses it and the news reports a shooting. Then there is the supposition of how the boy must have been neglected or abused or allowed to hold up in his room with violent video games after lighting fire to a cat. It is the easiest explanation to make sense of a senseless crime. People like answers and they need to have someone to blame when bad things happen. A school shooting may seem like a stretch in relation to how people feel about undocumented or illegal immigrants; however, in both cases blame gets fixed on people (parents of shooter and immigrant) who may be trying their hardest to survive and do right by themselves and their families. In The Bean Trees by Barbara Kingsolver, characters, Estevan and Esperanza flee Guatemala without their kidnapped daughter to keep themselves and their loved ones alive, but they must enter the US illegally. They meet up with the main character of the book, Taylor, who has fled Kentucky to find a bigger life than being the wife of a tobacco farmer spitting out babies. She learns that the issue of illegal immigration can’t be rubber stamped as wrong, because it’s individualized and complicated. She discovers that sound people are kind and willing to help and others throw out mean slogans as not to get involved. Kingsolver’s novel explores the short sightedness in pointing the finger and saying “you deserved it” when Taylor becomes a young mother, Estevan and Esperanza try to make a new life in America and come to grips with the removal of their daughter.