**Turning a Thesis into RACE Paragraphs**

Example prompt: Should cell phones be allowed in class?

Example thesis: Cell phones should not be allowed in class because they cause too many distractions and make cheating easier.

RA= The first reason cell phones should not be allowed in class is because they are distracting to many students.

\*Begin with a transition word or phrase (see list)

\*Restate and answer using the first reason in your thesis.

\*You may use slightly different words, but don’t change the meaning.

C=According to the passage, “cell phones ring, buzz or give notifications throughout the school day, and most students have trouble ignoring it. When polled, the majority of students admitted to looking at their phones during class when they are allowed to do so.” (p. 8)

\*Begin with an evidence sentence starter such as:

* + - As stated in the article,
    - According to the text,
    - The author stated,
    - In the article it said,

\*Follow this with quotation marks and lines from the article or paraphrase the lines in the article (maybe later)

\*End with the line number, page number or paragraph number where the quote was found in the article.

\*One variation can be to include the page number in the sentence starter, such as

* As stated on page 4 of the article,
* According to the text paragraph 2,
* On page 3, the author stated,
* In the article it said on page 8,

E=This shows that students get very distracted when their cell phones are allowed in class. Instead of paying attention or using their study time to focus on learning and getting work done, they are more worried about who is texting, calling or sending them a social media message. They want to look at their phones more than listen to what’s happening in class. Students will begin to do poorly in class because they are missing important information from the teacher, and paying more attention to their phone.

Put it all together…

The first reason cell phones should not be allowed in class is because they cause too many distractions. According to the passage, “cell phones ring, buzz or give notifications throughout the school day, and most students have trouble ignoring it. When polled, the majority of students admitted to looking at their phones during class when they are allowed to do so.” (p. 8). This shows that students get very distracted when their cell phones are allowed in class. Instead of paying attention or using their study time to focus on learning and getting work done, they are more worried about who is texting, calling or sending them a social media message. They want to look at their phones more than listen to what’s happening in class. Students will begin to do poorly in class because they are missing important information from the teacher, and paying more attention to their phone.

Now you try the second RACE paragraph. Go back to the thesis. What is the second reason? What would be a good transition for the second RACE paragraph?

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