

ENG 1101
Essay #4: Response Essay
Study Sheet for Essay 4

For this essay (*which is also similar to the final exam*) you will not get the prompt in advance. This does not mean you don't prepare! How can you study for a response essay if you don't know what the prompt will be about?

Strategies: Remember what you know about the **components of an essay**.

In general, a response essay should:

- Provide an introductory paragraph with a clear thesis statement (your argument) in the introductory paragraph
- Transition well between ideas (in and out of your arguments and the authors' arguments and in and out of paragraphs)
- Clearly paraphrase and/or quote and paraphrase from the essay
- Close with a concluding paragraph
- Have a title. A title is often easiest to write after finishing all or part of your essay.

To prepare:

- Re-read and continue annotating Coates' essay
- Practice summarizing parts or all of Coates' essay
- Review the basic essay structure: an introductory paragraph with your clear thesis statement; three sections or body paragraphs that support your thesis statement; and, a concluding paragraph or section that draws these ideas together.
- Review the various methods that can help you support your ideas and topic sentences: description, comparison and/or contrast, narrative, cause and effect, and exemplification (including facts and statistics).
- Review transition words and phrases that help you move between paragraphs
- Review transition words and phrases that help you move between your ideas and your author's ideas