

ENGL 100 Step-by-Step How to Write a Response Essay

Title

1. (Name of author/authors), in the article (name of article), write/s that (thesis of article) + (keywords for each main point). The main points are (using your own words, write a two or three sentence summary of the main points). I am responding to (write the prompt you are responding to). I agree/disagree with this statement/I agree for (number) reasons yet disagree for (number) reasons.

Cicarelli and White, in 'Secrets for Surviving College and Improving Your Grades', write that three major strategies will help students succeed in college: learning style study methods, time management, and reading techniques. The authors discuss four learning styles and offer study methods for each style for students to use. In addition, Ciccarelli and White write about time management, with an emphasis on tackling one task at a time rather than multitasking. The final point is reading techniques, where the authors discuss mistakes students make when reading textbooks and offer an explanation of the SQ3R reading method. I am responding to the writing prompt 'Do you agree with the learning style study methods suggested for your learning style?' I agree with this statement for two reasons yet disagree for two reasons.

2. First, I agree that (list the point you agree/disagree with). Write a sentence that explains why you agree/disagree. Then, provide an example that illustrates why you agree/disagree.

First, I agree the technique of highlighting reinforces facts for visual learners. When I'm reviewing for a test, I can easily identify important information. For example, on my last psychology test, I didn't need to study for as long as I had when I tried to read the chapter and my notes because I could easily see what the important points, which are highlighted in yellow. I had used blue to highlight less

important information. Best of all, I was able to recall the information when I took the test and I received a higher mark than usual.

3. (Transition to indicate addition of a similar item/transition to indicate a change to the opposite), I agree/disagree (list the point you agree/disagree with). Write a sentence that explains why you agree/disagree. Then, provide an example that illustrates why you agree/disagree.

In addition, I agree that visualizing charts and diagrams is helpful. It aids visual learners in remembering information. For example, in order to write this response essay, I first took a minute to visualize the chart on multiple study methods. I was then able to fill out the opinion graphics organizer, which I'm using to write this essay.

4. (Transition to indicate addition of a similar item/transition to indicate a change to the opposite), I agree/disagree (list the point you agree/disagree with). Write a sentence that explains why you agree/disagree. Then, provide an example that illustrates why you agree/disagree.

However, I disagree that making flash cards is a helpful method. It is not time effective. During Ramadan, people are very tired as well as they have many activities they must take part in. Families gather each evening, and many go to a mosque to pray.

5. Finally, I agree/disagree (list the point you agree/disagree with). Write a sentence that explains why you agree/disagree. Then, provide an example that illustrates why you agree/disagree.

Finally, I disagree with tracing letters and words as an effective way to study. Many visual learners will only remember isolated words or phrases if they use this method rather than remember information. I base this claim on a recent experience. I could only recall words; however, they were not in any context. Consequently, my test mark was low.

6. To conclude, (paraphrase of the thesis sentence). The next 3-4 sentences should be paraphrases of the main points you discussed in paragraphs two, three, four and five. End with a concluding sentence that gives advice or offers an opinion.

To conclude, while I agree with using the techniques of highlighting and visualizing charts and diagrams, I disagree with employing flash cards and tracing letters and words to use as study techniques. Using one color to highlight very important information and another color to highlight less important information is a great way to review quickly for exams and ensure that facts are remembered. Being able to 'picture' graphs and charts in a visual learner's mind is a really good way to recall information. However, using flash cards is too time consuming, and tracing letters and words might prove disastrous for visual learners since they would possibly just visualize letters and words rather than information that makes sense. All in all, I think the authors did a good job with their advice for visual learners.