**3-4-page Essay Structure**

**Title:** Something descriptive- not cute- about your paper. Often related to your main argument(s).

**Introduction:** Introduce your topic. What is it that you are discussing and why is it interesting? Orient your reader to what follows. Relate your thesis in a general fashion to the materials that you will be discussing. This should be neither overly broad nor too specific. **Have a thesis:** A topic or theme that reasonable people might debate or disagree about (i.e., not “the sky is blue” or “wars are destructive” or “wars cause hardship”). **Argue something; don’t just say/describe what happened!**

**Paragraphs:** Introduces evidence that supports the ideas or concepts necessary to advance your thesis. These are in turn supported by concrete examples/evidence that serve to illustrate and back your claims/arguments.

**Paragraph A:**

**Paragraph B:**

**Paragraph C:**

**Paragraph D:**

**Paragraph E:**

In each paragraph, explain how your evidence supports the main ideas and/or concepts that the paragraph is intended to make/advance. **Don’t just say what happened next !!**

**Conclusion:** Neatly summarize how your ideas illustrate your overall thesis. Explain why the way you handled your evidence to support your main ideas was persuasive.