**ESOL 0310 Summary & Response Essay**

**Due: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

You will write a 600 – 800 word summary and response essay based on the article, *An Innovation That Keeps Things Moving.* This type of essay summarizes an article, and then includes your reaction to the information in the article. Your response can be:

* ideas you agree or disagree with
* your own personal experiences or knowledge that relate to the topic
* facts and examples that support or disprove the main points of the article.
* further suggestions

EXPAND ON THE INFORMATION FROM THE ARTICLE, DON’T JUST REPEAT IT

**Thesis Statement:** Your thesis has to work hard in this type of essay! It should indicate that you are summarizing the main ideas of the article, while also responding to or analyzing the information from that article. You may or may not mention the main points from your response paragraphs. The thesis might have to be two sentences in order to do all of this!

**Thesis Examples:**

1. This article highlights the need for innovation in the fight against climate change and reveals the important role universities play in that process.
2. While recycling vegetable oil to replace fossil fuels sounds environmentally friendly, it has severe limitations, and demonstrates how our climate crisis will not be solved by individual actions but by large actions on the part of national governments.
3. This article points out that cracked eggs used to be a big problem. The solution was good design, and the key was creating a machine to manufacture cartons.
4. The author shows a connection between selfies, narcissism, and destructive behavior, but a careful analysis of his ideas also reveals other factors to consider.
5. This article raises two important issues: schools should change the style of testing, and too much testing can cause depression in students.

**Academic Third Person:** Even though you are giving your personal reaction, you should still write this essay in academic third person. No: I, me, my opinion, you, we, etc.

**Referring to the Author/Article:**

* Use the author’s full name and title of the article in the introduction.
* Use the author’s last name only in the body paragraphs.
* Use synonyms like the author, the writer, the professor
* In the conclusion, use the author’s full name one more time.
* Use MLA style to create a Work(s) Cited page for the original article and any other sources

**Summary/Response Essay Structure**

**Introduction**

* + Hook & Background information
  + The main idea/point of the article you are summarizing
  + Credit to the author and the title of the article
  + Thesis

**Body Paragraph # 1:**

* A summary of the article (Since you already gave credit to the author and title in the introduction, you don’t do it again here. Instead, you can start with something like, *In the article* OR *The article/author states*.)
* Summarize the main points in a logical order. Usually this is the same order as the original article, but not always.
* Use transition words so the summary flows smoothly

**Body Paragraph #2:**

* First Response - The first sentence or two will mention one point/idea from the article. Then the rest of the paragraph is your expansion on this point/idea.

**Body Paragraph #3**

* Second Response - The first sentence or two will mention a second point/idea from the article. Then the rest of the paragraph is your expansion on this point/idea.

**(Body Paragraph #4 – optional)**

* Third Response - The first sentence or two will mention a third point/idea from the article. Then the rest of the paragraph is your expansion on this.

**Conclusion**

* Summarize your points and connect them to the article. Mention the author’s first and last name again.
* Finish with a powerful closer (prediction, suggestion, thoughtful question, connection to the hook.)

**Work(s) Cited Page**