Senior Running Start Literary Criticism Research Paper

**Preliminary Outline**

**First, please enable editing and file/save as your own copy.**

**Purpose**: The purpose of a preliminary outline is to ensure that you have conducted all of the research you need to do BEFORE you start writing your paper. That way, if there are holes, you can go back and research some more.

**Step One: Select your sentences.**

Using your quotation selections, copy and paste the sentences from your critic research and sentences from your novel that you think will work best with your thesis statement. This means that the sentence you select from your critic research should address your theme statement **and** an element of story writing, as closely as you can get. Don’t forget to **INCLUDE YOUR INTERNAL CITATIONS**.

|  |
| --- |
| Thesis Statement: Erich Maria Remarque in "All Quiet on the Western Front" highlights that war is a machine that destroys the all involved through setting, character, and conflict. |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Body Paragraph 1** | **Body Paragraph 2** | **Body Paragraph 3 (optional)** |
| Story Element:  Setting | Story Element:  Character | Story Element:  Conflict |
| Novel Quote #1:  “We are marching in column; the French certainly will not fire on a town in which there are still inhabitants. But a few minutes later the air screams, the earth heaves, cries ring out; a shell has landed among our rear squad.” (10) | Novel Quote #1:  “By the animal instinct that is awakened in us we are led and protected. It is not conscious; it is far quicker, much more sure, less fallible, than consciousness. One cannot explain it. A man is walking along without thought or heed; - suddenly he throws himself down on the ground and a storm of fragments flies harmlessly over him; - yet he cannot remember either to have heard the shell coming or to have thought of flinging himself down. But had he not abandoned himself to the impulse he would now be a heap of mangled flesh.” (4) | Novel Quote #1:  “If you jumped in here again, I would not do it, if you would be sensible too. But you were only an idea to me before, an abstraction that lived in my mind and called forth its appropriate response. It was that abstraction I stabbed. But now, for the first time, I see you are a man like me.” (9) |
| Novel Quote #2:  “Day after day goes by with pain and fear, groans and death gurgles. Even the Death Room is no use anymore, it is too small; fellows die during the night in our room.” (10) | Novel Quote #2:  “We are none of us more than twenty years old. But young? Youth? That is long ago. We are old folk.” (1) / “Let the months and years come, they can take nothing from me, they can take nothing more. I am so alone, and so without hope that I can confront them without fear. The life that has borne me through these years is still in my hands and my eyes. Whether I have subdued it, I know not. But so long as it is there it will seek its own way out, heedless of the will that is within me.” (12) | Novel Quote #2:  “He fell in October 1918, on a day that was so quiet and still on the whole front, that the army report confined itself to the single sentence: All quiet on the Western Front. He had fallen forward and lay on the earth as though sleeping. Turning him over one saw that he could not have suffered long; his face had an expression of calm, as though almost glad the end had come.” (12) |
| Critic Quote:  “Rapid changes of scene take the reader to the front—sheltering from shell-fire in a cemetery, under gas attack, behind the lines—on leave to a Germany that cannot conceive of life at the front, into contact with Russian POWs, and to the hospital, where the consequences of war are among the severest and clearest.” ("All Quiet on the Western Front." Novels for Students) | Critic Quote:  “Often Bäumer himself is unable to think things through because, since he is actually in the war, those conclusions would lead to madness. For the time being he is forced to cling to the circular statement that “war is war”; sometimes, however, Bäumer decides consciously to store up ideas for later” (Murdoch) | Critic Quote:  “The war is trans-formed from a cause into an inexorable, insatiable Moloch. The soldiers have no escape from the routinized slaughter; they are condemned men. They die screaming but unheard; they die resigned but in vain. The world beyond the guns does not know them; it cannot know them” (Eksteins) |
| Critic Quote:  “Remarque sets All Quiet on the Western Front during the last two years of the war. Germany's strength wanes while that of the Allieds grows from the American entry into the war in 1917. The location Remarque gives his story is the Western Front, along the German lines in France. However, although Remarque's story is that of a German soldier, his descriptions of the trenches and of the battles cross national boundaries. The tense, claustrophobic hours in the trenches waiting for the battle to begin; the huge rats stealing food from the soldiers; the corpses lying mutilated on the battlefield; the daily horrors of war taking on an air of normalcy” () | Critic Quote:  “He accused a mechanistic civilization of destroying humane values, ofnegating charity, love, humor, beauty, and individuality. Yet Remarque offered no alternatives. The characters of his generazione bruciata – the Italian notion of a “burned generation” is apt – do not act; they are merely victims.” (Eksteins) | Critic Quote:  “They believe that the real enemy they are fighting are not the French and the British, but death itself. The only value that sustains them is a sense of comradeship with those who have endured the same miseries as they.” (Armitage) |