RRE Thesis Statement and Response Paragraphs

How many paragraphs are there in an RRE?

There are 5 paragraphs.

What are the five paragraphs of an RRE?

- ► The Introduction
- ► The Summary Paragraph
- Response paragraph One
- Response paragraph Two
 - ► The Conclusion

The Introduction

- 1. Credit to the author (the author's name and the title of the source text)
- 2. The paraphrase of the author's main idea
- 3. Background information to help readers understand the topic
- **4.** A thesis statement that states your response to the main ideas of the article

The Summary Paragraph

- 1. A topic sentence
- 2. The first key idea
- 3. **Supporting ideas** that illustrate the first idea (<u>important examples, evidence, a short quotation, and information from the source text)</u>
- 4. The second key idea
- 5. **Supporting ideas** that illustrate the second idea (<u>important examples, evidence, a short quotation, and information</u> from the source text)
- 6. A brief description of the third key idea

Response Paragraph One

- 1. A topic sentence (which ideas/article features you are responding to and your opinions about them)
- 2. The first idea/article feature you are responding to and your viewpoint
- 3. An **example/examples** from **your own observations or those of other authors** to Illustrate your point
- 4. The second idea/article feature you are responding to and your viewpoint
- 5. An **example/examples** from **your own observations or those of other authors** to Illustrate your point

Response Paragraph Two

- 1. A topic sentence (which ideas/article features you are responding to and your opinions about them)
- 2. The first idea/article feature you are responding to and your viewpoint
- 3. An **example/examples** from <u>your own observations or those of other authors</u> to Illustrate your point
- 4. The **second idea/article feature** you are responding to and your **viewpoint**
- 5. An **example/examples** from **your own observations or those of other authors** to Illustrate your point

The Conclusion

- 1. The restatement of the author's main idea
- 2. The restatement of your thesis
- 3. A prediction and/or a call to action

The RRE writing process starts with

- reading an article which is followed by
- writing the Summary Paragraph that
 - summarizes the author's key ideas.

The next step is to

- annotate the article which means
- taking notes about the text.

After you have finished annotating the text, you need to

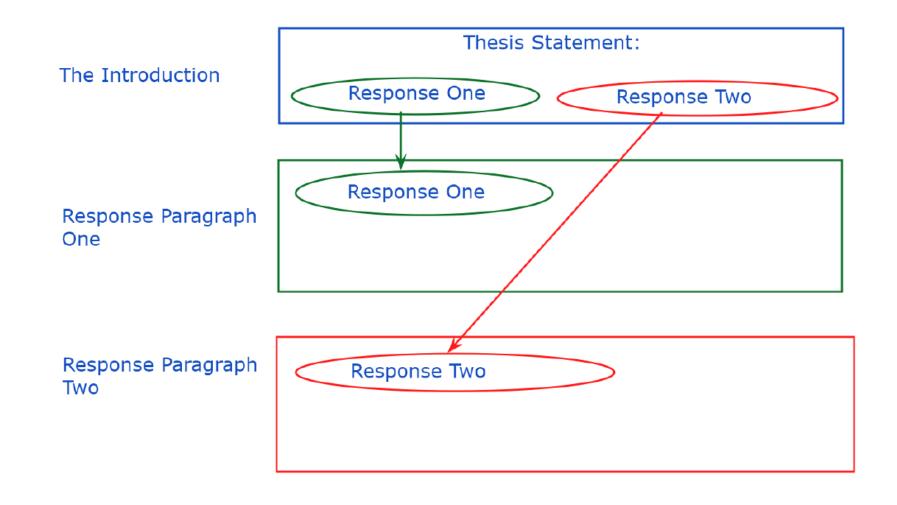
- write the RRE thesis statement.
 - What is a **thesis** statement?
- which states your responses to the main ideas of the article you have read.

An example of a thesis statement

While I agree with some of the author's points to an extent, I feel that they could have been clearer and included the point of view of the reader who is the user of the content curation. An RRE thesis statement is made up of *TWO* clauses which describe *TWO* different **responses** to the article.

Response One.

While I agree with some of the author's points to an extent, I feel that they could Response Two have been clearer and included the point of view of the reader who is the user of the content curation.



TWO different **responses** to the article show the reader the focus of **TWO** response paragraphs.

Response One

While I agree with some of the author's points to an extent,

However, another part of the argument is Rosenbaum's very clear second point about the need for content curators, and I agree with it to an extent. The fact and figures about information are indeed compelling. Many people can relate to the feeling of being overwhelmed by the amount of data coming to us on social media and in our email. We simply do not have time, or the patience, to read or look through all this data on our own. Curation might be the type of "filtering" that Margarita Tartakovsky (2000) mentions as a strategy for dealing with all of this information in her article "Overcoming Information Overload". However, Rosenbaum says that content curation is the job of journalists. I find that assertion questionable. It also important that readers think for themselves and make sure that the content they see is not just one person's opinion. For example, I go on one particular website for home decorating ideas. I see lots of pictures of the same styles over and over. I know that this site is just one point of view, so I go to other sites too, for fresh ideas. I think that responsible readers seek out information in addition to the information curated for them so that they can broaden their perspectives. In this way, content curation is not just a journalist's job-it is everyone's job.

TWO different **responses** to the article show the reader the focus of **TWO** response paragraphs.

Response Two

I feel that they could have been clearer and included the point of view of the reader who is the user of the content curation.

Rosenbaum's article contains interesting points, but I found some of his examples and explanations debatable. He claims that the term "curation" is misused and gives an example of a wine store that curates wine. Why cannot a wine store curate wines? This example made me think of the museum in my neighborhood. Museums have curators who put together collections of paintings that are thematically related. The curators contextualize them by sharing information on who the artist was, when the artist painted, and so on. That can be done for wine collections, too. Curators could bring together wines related on a theme, maybe because they were all mentioned in a novel, or all taste good with chocolate. They could share information on how the wines were made, or why they are relevant to the theme. I think it is possible to curate a wine store. If Rosenbaum had talked more about why the wine store was not really curated in his opinion, it would have made his point clearer. Reading this part of the article, I felt unconvinced that the label was being used inappropriately.

Give your objective responses and critique of the article in terms of the quality of the writing and ideas.

- ► Each paragraph responds to *a different point* of the article.
- The topic sentence states the point to be discussed.
- Response Paragraph One
- Rosenbaum's article contains interesting points, but I found some of his examples and explanations debatable.
- Response Paragraph Two
- However, another part of the argument is Rosenbaum's very clear second point about the need for content curators, and I agree with it to an extent.

The *topic sentence can be supported* in any of the following ways:

- a reflection on what it means based on your knowledge of the world
- ▶ a **personal connection** to an idea through an example
- question(s) you may have
- connections between an idea and the ideas of another author
- strengths and weaknesses of the author's reasoning

Let us analyze some of the examples provided in the sample RRE. How is the topic sentence supported in the following extract from the essay?

- Rosenbaum's article contains interesting points, but I found some of his examples and explanations debatable. He claims that the term "curation" is misused and gives an example of a wine store that curates wine. Why cannot a wine store curate wines? This example made me think of the museum in my neighborhood. Museums have curators who put together collections of paintings that are thematically related.
- question(s) you may have
- a personal connection to an idea through an example

Let us analyze another example. How is the topic sentence supported in the following extract from the essay?

- ► However, another part of the argument is Rosenbaum's very clear second point about the need for content curators, and I agree with it to an extent. The fact and figures about information are indeed compelling. Many people can relate to the feeling of being overwhelmed by the amount of data coming to us on social media and in our email. We simply do not have time, or the patience, to read or look through all this data on our own. Curation might be the type of "filtering" that Margarita Tartakovsky (2000) mentions as a strategy for dealing with all of this information in her article "Overcoming Information Overload".
- connections between an idea and the ideas of another author

- Response paragraphs can focus on the author's main ideas, major points, or weaknesses in ideas or examples.
- ► Each response is expressed in a separate response paragraph.
- ► For example,
- > you may write one paragraph for a point you agree with
- and another paragraph about the point that you feel is not well supported.

- Include a topic sentence that identifies which idea you are responding to and state your opinion about it.
- ► For example,
- Another part of the argument is Rosenbaum's very clear second point about the need for content curators, and I agree with it to an extent.

- State whether you agree with an idea in the source text and explain why.
- ► For example,
- ► He claims that the term "curation" is misused and gives an example of a wine store that curates wine. Why cannot a wine store curate wines?

- ▶ When you do agree or disagree with something, illustrate your point with an example.
- ► For example,
- ► This example made me think of the museum in my neighborhood. Museums have curators who put together collections of paintings that are thematically related. The curators contextualize them by sharing information on who the artist was, when the artist painted, and so on. That can be done for wine collections, too.

- Evaluate how well the author explains his/her ideas.
- If you think an idea is **faulty**, you can express that with phrases like "[authors' name] does not provide enough examples to support this idea" or "the article presents this as supporting evidence, but this is not convincing."
- ► For example,
- ▶ Reading this part of the article, I felt unconvinced that the label was being used inappropriately.

References

▶ 1. Asplin, W., Jacobe, M. F., Kennedy, A. S., & Lambert, J. (2015). *Final Draft Level 4 Student's Book* (1st ed.). Cambridge University Press.