

Top Ten List Guidelines

For third quarter, you needed to read a nonfiction book. Instead of putting together a brochure to prove that you read, you will need to create a top ten list.

In this top ten list, you will need to include SPECIFIC examples to prove your opinion. Depending on the type of book you read, you will have a different idea of what type of top ten list you would like to share. You could make your list on the following example topics:

- Top ten things to learn
- Top ten vocabulary words and their importance
- Top ten reasons to read the book
- Top ten people who might be interested in reading the book
- Any other topic that you feel is appropriate (please run it by Mrs. Riske)

Remember, you ALWAYS want to use examples from the book to support your opinion. The reasons you choose should each include: the sentence from the book (if possible), the page number, the example of the learning, and an explanation of why it is important. It is NOT just a list!

Made up Example:

Jill Riske
Mrs. Riske
Language Arts 1
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Top Ten Things to Learn from *Being Successful in Seventh Grade Language Arts* by Julie Hubbard

1. Always use a topic sentence when writing a paragraph.
 - a. “A topic sentence should be a general statement stating the topic of the paragraph. The topic sentence should not contain any examples; those should come in the following sentences.” – page 35
 - b. If seventh graders get in the habit now of writing this way, they will be more successful with their writing throughout their lives.
2. Never “talk” to the reader when writing.
 - a. “Saying statements like ‘My essay is going to be about’ or ‘I am going to explain what I think about this topic’ is an example of talking to the reader.” – page 49
 - b. “When using the word ‘you’ in your writing, you are directly talking to the reader and making assumptions about him/her. Avoid the use of ‘you’ at all times.” – page 50
 - c. It is important to keep most academic writing formal. There will be times when creative writing assignments allow students to break these rules. However, in expository essays, reading responses, reading comprehension questions, etc, writing should always be formal.