Design for a 5-Paragraph Essay Using the Question Exploration Guide as a Scaffold

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|  |  | Huck Finn (QEG Page 60) | Example from Ozone Layer | SIM Learning Community |
| Paragraph 1 | Develop the topic sentence from the question in Section 1 | Huck’s conflict in Mark Twain’s Huckleberry Finn helps deliver Twain’s message to his readers. | Problems with ozone can teach us about human effects on our environment. |  |
| Add background information and definitions found in Section 2. | A conflict is a struggle between two people or within a person. In this story, Huck has a conflict within himself. He must decide whether or not to help Jim escape from slavery. | The ozone layer is an invisible layer of gas that shields us from UV radiation. UV radiation is ultraviolet radiation, or rays of the sun that can harm living things. One problem today is that the protective ozone layer around the earth is being destroyed. |  |
| Paragraph 2 | Develop these using information from the smaller supporting questions. Questions may be combined and/or re-ordered. | At the beginning of the story, Twain introduces the reader to Huck. He is a boy who struggles with his beliefs about slavery while on a raft trip down the Mississippi River with the slave, Jim. Huck has an important decision to make. He must decide whether to help Jim escape or turn him over to the slave hunters. Huck struggles with this decision. He resolves the conflict when he finally decides that Jim should be free and decides to help him escape. | In the past, the ozone layer protected the earth from UV rays. Now, the ozone layer is being destroyed by chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs). CFCs are chemicals used in things such as cleaning products, foam containers, refrigerator coolants and spray cans. |  |
| Paragraph 3 | Therefore, the author’s message is delivered when we see how Huck resolves his conflict about Jim. Twain’s message is that each human being should be valued and that each person’s freedom is all-important. By protecting Jim, Huck delivers this message to the reader. | There are several effects of this destruction. First, physical harm such as skin cancer and cataracts can happen. Second, there can be environmental damage to crops and also to plants in the ocean food chain. Third, weather patterns can e disrupted. In addition, the earth can be heating up; this is also called the greenhouse effect. |  |

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| Paragraph 4 | Option 1: Continue expanding on supporting questions (Ozone Layer)  Option 2: Develop conclusion to initial question from main idea answer in Section 4 (Huck Finn) | Several solutions have been tried. First, there have been voluntary cutbacks on the use of products containing CFCs. For example, McDonald’s stopped using foam containers. Second, alternatives are being explored, such as HCFCs, and third, world conferences are being held to find solutions and reach agreements on limiting the use of CFCs. However, some people still don’t think it’s a problem. | The way Huck chooses to protect Jim makes Twain’s message very powerful. To save Jim, he tells the slave hunters that the man with him on the raft is his father. He tells them that his father is sick inside a tent on the raft with a disease they could catch. This makes Twain’s message powerful because Huck is claiming Jim, a black man and a slave, as a member of his family. This shows how much Huck values Jim, like a son would value his father. |  |
| Paragraph 5 | Option 1: Develop the topic sentence or introduction from the main idea answer in Section 4.  Conclude the paragraph with insights or generalizations from Sections 5 and/or 6. | Therefore, people can harm the environment without intending to harm it or even believing it is happening. However, they can learn about the situation by conducting experiments (such as with balloons to show that oxygen can be changed to ozone), or they can do research on products that cause damage to the ozone layer. |  |  |
| Option 2: Add insights to conclusion with generalizations from Sections 5 and/or 6. |  | We see conflicts in today’s world in many places. Movies and television shows often show a main character facing an internal conflict over a decision. For example, a recent television program showed how a teenager made a decision to go on a trip with his family rather than hang out with his friends. It delivered the message that family is important, even to a teenager. Conflict was used in this case, as in many others, to develop a message in an interesting way. |  |