



There Are No Children Here The Evil Cycle



When reading There Are No Children Here, it is apparent that the people of Horner are stuck in a never-ending cycle of poverty. Why is it that LaJoe's parents, LaJoe herself, her children, and her grandchildren are all living in the disparity of Horner?

PROMPT: In a well-developed four-paragraph essay, identify 2 factors that contribute to this cycle. Explain how each of these factors makes it difficult for the people of Horner to rise above the poverty and violence of their environment

*You can fill out the graphic organizer BUT MUST write/type your ideas on a separate sheet of paper.

The format for your paragraph is as follows:

- **Introduction Paragraph**
 - Include an attention getter and Thesis statement
- **2 Body Paragraphs**
 - Topic Sentence
 - Assertion 1
 - Evidence 1 (quotation)
 - Elaboration 1 (at least 3 sentences)
 - Assertion 2
 - Evidence 2 (quotation)
 - Elaboration 2 (at least 3 sentences)
 - Clincher Sentence
- **Conclusion Paragraph**
 - Sum up Thesis statement
 - Add Closure to the paper

Please pay close attention to your spelling, grammar, and documentation format. Also, remember to stay in the 3rd person point of view (i.e. NO I, you, me, we, our, us, etc...)

Good Luck! ☺

Name _____

There Are No Children Here

You can use the graphic organizer for a rough draft or any prewriting, but your final draft must be typed out. You may use your book for textual evidence – be sure to cite properly.

PROMPT: What is Alex Kotlowitz's purpose in writing this non-fiction novel?

- ☐ This paper must be at least four paragraphs in length.
- ☐ You must cite specific examples from the text to demonstrate your assertions.
- ☐ You must elaborate (do not summarize!!).
- ☐ This paper must be typed.
- ☐ Be sure that your paper is double-spaced and typed in Times New Roman, size 12 font.
- ☐ Follow the proper organizational format set out for you in the graphic organizers.
- ☐ Must be submitted to TurnItIn.com before I grade it!

Use this sheet for any prewriting. GOOD LUCK! 😊

INTRO PARAGRAPH

In the introduction paragraph, you need to grab the reader's attention...make the reader *want* to read your paper. Make the reader curious as to what your paper is about but DON'T reveal anything about the topic of your paper yet!

Here are the steps:

1. Start with a GENERAL IDEA for the Attention Getter.
2. Explain your Attention Getter (reword a definition, explain a quote, elaborate on the opening idea)
3. Connect the ideas of the Attention Getter to your Thesis Statement.
4. Present your THESIS STATEMENT.

Attention Getter: (Description, Personal Experience, Famous Quotation or Saying, Summary, Definition) _____

Explain your Attention Getter: (1-2 Sentences) _____

Connect the ideas of the Attention Getter to the topic of the essay and/or literature (w/title and author):

THESIS STATEMENT: (Last sentence, one sentence, preview paragraph ideas) _____

BODY PARAGRAPH ASSIGNMENT

TOPIC SENTENCE (State topic of the paragraph)

1st ASSERTION (State your 1st point to support topic sentence)

EVIDENCE (Support your assertion with a reason with a relatively clear example!)

ELABORATION (Explain how the evidence *proves* the assertion.)

2nd ASSERTION (State your 2nd point to support topic sentence)

EVIDENCE (Support your assertion with a reason with a relatively clear example!)

TRANSITION
WORD

ELABORATION (Explain how the evidence *proves* the assertion.)

CLINCHER/CONCLUSION SENTENCE (Sum up this paragraph)

Conclusion Paragraph

In the conclusion paragraph, you need to draw upon new ideas about your Attention Getter; wrap the paper up so that it is finished, well summarized, and gives the reader something to think about.

Here are the steps:

1. Restate, but do not repeat, your thesis statement.
2. Summarize the ideas in the paper.
3. Connect your thesis ideas, and what you revealed in your essay to your introductory Attention Getter.
4. (OPTIONAL): End with a new question, thought, or idea.
5. Conclusion Paragraph MUST be at least 4 sentences.

Restate Thesis Statement/Summarize Essay Ideas: (do not repeat; use your language skills) _____

Connect your essay back to the original Attention Getter idea of the introduction paragraph: _____

(OPTIONAL) New question, thought, or idea to leave the reader with: _____

Rubric for Essay

PROMPT: _____

Standards: Students will be able to discuss the purpose and effectiveness of non-fiction writing.

Students will be able to draw personal connections.

Students will be able to effectively write an essay.

Students will be able to interpret literature in an analytical manner.

Students will be able to defend their position.

Criteria		4	3	2	1
Cite specific examples	X2	Examples were not given or cited correctly	Some examples were given but not cited correctly	Examples were mostly cited correctly with one or 2 errors	Examples and Citations were correct throughout the essay
Elaborate assertions	X2	No assertions in essay; gave summary	Assertions were not elaborated often	Assertions were elaborated on well	Assertions were elaborated on thoroughly.
Thesis statement	X1	Thesis statement was missing	Weak thesis statement	Good thesis statement but could be stronger.	Strong thesis statement
Overall introduction paragraph	X2	Intro paragraph did not preview essay	Intro paragraph did not grab reader's attention; it did preview	Intro paragraph previewed most of the essay and grabbed	Intro paragraph previewed essay, had attention getter and

			paper	attention of reader.	
Overall conclusion paragraph	X2	Conclusion did not close essay	Conclusion's closing was weak and did not review points.	Conclusion reviewed points and had good closing	Conclusion closed entire essay and reviewed points
Spelling/Grammar are correct	X1	Too many errors!	Many errors	Few errors	No errors
Turned into Turnitin.com on time		0			10

Total ____/50