**ESSAY Dissection** Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Follow these steps to dissect your essays. Work with one essay at a time. Use a different colored ink to make your marks.*

1. Highlight your Thesis Statement. Is it clear and understandable? Does it give your essay purpose? Answer in the right margin.
2. Highlight the Topic Sentence of your first body paragraph. Does it support your thesis? Why or why not. Answer in the left margin.
3. Underline the “quoted text” in your first body paragraph. Have you created context BEFORE the quote? Have you provided analysis AFTER the quote? How or why not? Answer in the right margin. If you don’t have quoted text, make an “X” in the right margin.
4. Highlight the Closing Sentence in your first body paragraph. Not including the topic and closing sentences, how many sentences are in between the topic and closing sentences?

Day One: Day Two: Day Three:

1. If you eliminated all of the writing in between, do the Topic Sentence and Closing Sentence flow together like a seamless idea? Answer in the left margin.
2. **Repeat steps 2-5 for each Body Paragraph.** Answer questions 2, 3, and 5 in the margin of your paper next to the coinciding paragraph.
3. In the conclusion, highlight your Thesis Reworded. Does it successfully re-WORD your thesis? Answer in the right margin.
4. Give yourself a legitimate grade on the 10-point scale. Write this grade AND justify (explain why) this grade in writing at the end of your essay.