How to nail a ‘PETER’ paragraph

Notes by Ms Quinn

What does ‘PETER’ stand for?
- Point
- Example
- Technique
- Explain
- Reader’s Response

How to use a ‘PETER’ paragraph

Stage 1: Get your point across-answer the question asked using the words in the question in order to avoid digression

Stage 2: Give evidence to support the point you have just made:

This is evident in the line: ‘……………….’/This is apparent in the line: ‘…………………….’/This is conspicuous in the line: ‘……………….’

This is depicted in the line ‘……………….’

This is portrayed in the line: ‘……………….’/This is illustrated in the line: ‘……………….’/This is manifested in the line: ‘……………….’/This is conveyed in the line’……………….’/This is indicated in the line: ‘………’

Stage 3: Identify 1 or more techniques the writer used in the example you gave.

- Facts and figures
- Irony
- Tone of voice
- Point-of-view
- Personification
- Sensory imagery-visual/aural/tactile/gustatory/olfactory
- Onomatopoeia
- Euphony
- Cacophony
- Apt verbs & adjectives
- Imperative verbs
- Staccato phrasing
- Anecdotes
- Rhetorical questions
- Alliteration and assonance
- Metaphors and similes
- Humour
- Quotations and references from other writers/distinguished people
- Oxymoron

Stage 4: Explain why the technique(s) you identified are good/bad?

- Identify key words/techniques. Discuss the effects of key words (ask yourself what word/technique is significant? How does it contribute to the creation of a certain atmosphere or mood/ impression of a character? Say what you think is being implied by the author. What connotations do certain words have for you as the reader?
Reader’s Response

- Stage 5: Think of how your point affects the reader, for example: Knowing that Alice is the ‘good guy’ affects the reader, because it allows them to take sides and feel emotive against the wolf.

Respond

Why is it good to use ‘PETER’ paragraphs?

- It is good because it can get you a higher grade in an assessment.
- It allows you to extend your answers in more thought and detail.

Point...

So remember...

Get your point across

Evidence...

Give evidence to support and To help prove your point.

Technique...

Point out and identify a Technique the writer used in Your example.
EXPLAIN...

Why is the technique good/bad? Is it effective or not? Is it apt?

READER...

How is this going to be affecting/making the reader feel?