

Big idea  
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## Dead Poet's Society Paragraph Writing Assignment

**Goal-** To express your understanding of the movie "Dead Poet's Society" through a written response

Choose 2 of the prompts listed below and create a well developed paragraph for each prompt (refer to the rubric given to you earlier this year on what a well developed paragraph should include) -

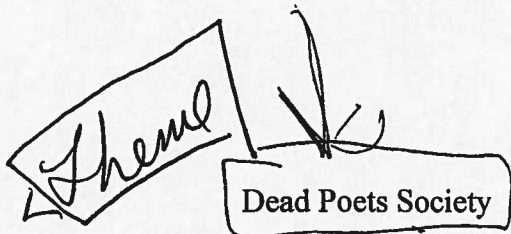
- Identify who is the most important character and explain why you think this.
- Identify a conflict in this movie and explain why is it was important to the story.
- Explain how tradition plays a role in this film.
- Explain how Neil could have handled his situation differently.
- Explain what you think will happen to Todd after the end of the movie- what will he do, what will happen to him.
- Based on what you viewed in the film, do you think Mr. Perry will ever accept any responsibility for Neil's death. Explain and support your opinion on this.

After you create Paragraph A and Paragraph B:

1. Attach your paragraphs to this sheet.
2. Underline your topic sentence and clincher sentence with a red pen.
3. Count your sentences and put the # of sentences in red at the end of each paragraph

CK - 2+ identifications  
CU - 2 PT1 -  
EC - 2+ reporting

Mrs. Wittrock  
English 10  
October 25, 2010



CK-2 CU-2 EC-2

In the film *Dead Poets Society* tradition meant everything. Tradition plays a huge role in the film. The way tradition plays a role is if you don't follow tradition you will be penalized. The students had to do many things to keep the tradition alive. They were expected to dress in uniform until they go to bed, always do and get school work done, listen to instructors without question of their theory, get good grades so the school looks good, and most of all follow all the rules. Tradition is good to a certain extent but when you push the limits it just turns into a bad thing.



DPS and Separate Peace Comparison

CK-3

Dead Poets Society and A Separate Peace are very similar in story line. If you look at both films they are almost the same. In both of them the main characters are in an all boys academy. They don't follow the rules like they are supposed to even though they are both in good school with high expectations. One of the most important factors is the main characters are just alike. For instance, Gene and Todd are pretty much the same because their book smart but not really for breaking the rules. In a way Finny and Neil are alike, they are the leaders of the groups they hang out with and even though they are different when it comes to following the rules they both end up dying in the end because of something that happened earlier in the film. The films were very much alike in many ways but the main ways they were was through expectations and characters.

CU-2

EC-3

Wittrock 6

October 25, 2010

Dead Poets Society Paragraphs

TOPIC In Dead Poets Society, based on what happened in the film, Mr. Perry will never accept and take some of the blame for Neil's death. Mr. Perry was always running Neil's life the way he wanted it to be. He wanted Neil to go to Harvard and become a doctor. Neil's dream was to act because acting was his favorite thing to do. Mr. Perry was blaming Mr. Keating for Neil's obsession with acting and blaming him for pursuing a career in acting. He felt that Mr. Keating just needed to stay out of Neil's life and just teach his class. He also felt that Mr. Keating was responsible for the club that Neil and his friends had started, Dead Poets Society. In conclusion, Mr. Perry will never accept the fact that he played apart in Neil's death. CLINCHER (8)

TOPIC In the movie Dead Poets Society, Todd has changed a lot from the beginning of the story to the end. The prediction that I have is that he will not get expelled. He will not get expelled because if he gets expelled than the substitute teacher will have to expel everyone else that was in the classroom that stood up on the desks. It would not be fair if he got expelled and no one else did. He proved to himself and others that he can stand up for himself and to others. Even at the risk of getting expelled. Mr. Keating really did teach the kids good things, but he should not have enforced them on the kids like he did to Neil. CLINCHER

(7)