

SAMPLE
(of your finished product)

Bulldog 1

Billy Bulldog (Your name will go here.)

Mrs. Lowery

English 9 Pre-AP

13 May 2018 (You will put the due date here – first day of school.)

Two Tales of Friendships

I. Introduction

A. Most agree with the band The Beatles, “I get by with a little help from my friends” (line 5). After reading the line from the famous song, “With a Little Help from My Friends,” most begin to sing along. Upon the initial perusal of the lyrics, the song seems innocently to tout the love of friends. But after closer inspection, clearly the song masterfully introduces the acceptance of loneliness.

← Attention
getter!

↳ includes transitional
area

B. The novels, *Of Mice and Men* by John Steinbeck and *Harry Potter in The Sorcerer’s Stone* by J.K. Rowling examine the moral responsibility of friendship; however, one narrative’s conclusion imagines a bleak obligation while the second revels in the love of camaraderie.

← Thesis ☺

II. The friendships shared in Steinbeck and Rowling’s narratives transcend common bonds and manifests morally mature friendships.

A. For instance, George and Lennie in *Of Mice and Men* integrate two men in a symbiotic relationship. Additionally, the characters Harry, Hermione and Ron in *Harry Potter in The Sorcerer’s Stone* emulate the development of a healthy and youthful alliance.

B. Through the narratives’ **conflict** development, the authors create everlasting friendships.

This is the literary term component. I would suggest expanding on this commentary with further explanation.

Thematic
Similarities

C. For the first time in his life, the protagonist Harry shares with a friend, “‘Go on, have a pasty,’ said Harry, who had never had anything to share before or, indeed, anyone to share it with. It was a nice feeling, sitting there with Ron, eating their way through all Harry's pasties, cakes, and candies (the sandwiches lay forgotten)” (Rowling 6). The author uses the transition from the real world to the wizardly world to discover growth in Harry's friendships.

III. Although both texts espouse friendships, Steinbeck envisions a monotonous and mundane connection while Rowling envisions a blissful and rewarding union.

A. For example, the friendship between George and Lennie, although sentimental and sweet, is not a bond of equality but an association of stark and oppressive dependency.

On the other hand, the relationship developed in Rowling's fantasy tale, captures the loving essence of cronyism.

B. The author's **tone** is easily determined through their use of **imagery** and **dialogue** when nurturing the characters' relationships.

C. Demonstrating the bleak obligation of association, Steinbeck uses harsh language and depressing world-views, “Slim looked through George and beyond him. ‘Ain't many guys travel around together,’ he mused. ‘I don't know why. Maybe ever'body in the whole damn world is scared of each other’” (179).

IV. In **conclusion**, both authors dream of everlasting friendships, but one discovers the sordid fact—some friendships are toxic. The Beatles might moan, “Are you sad when you're all alone” (line 11); but ultimately, both authors realize that getting “...by with a little help from my friends” is better than existing alone.

The clincher relates back to the beginning quote from the Beatles song to tie the whole outline together.

Thematic Differences