## Now you are ready to write up your paragraphs...

## Some things to remember in terms of formatting:

- Please organize your sources in alphabetical order.
- Use MLA citations for sources. If you don't know what those are, please check <u>here</u>.
- You can write in either third-person or first-person. Just be consistent across entries.
- You are not required to use quotes like you did in the precis, but you may find that it helps add depth and precision in showing the author's conclusions. If you do use them, please integrate them in the context of a sentence.

## Some things to keep in mind in terms of writing:

Be precise. Some of the models are LONG. Yours doesn't need to be. But you do need to address the following:

- What is the author's thesis? (gee, sounds like something straight from the precis)
  - If the piece is more of a background overview on your topic, then name the purpose or scope (ex: "...sets out to place John Turner in eighteenth century England and show the development of his philosophy in relation to contemporary social mores"). This should be the topic sentence to your paragraph and guide all of the sentences that come after it.
- Why is the author qualified to discuss this topic? Give his/her credentials or what research or support went into this specific piece. Who do they reference? Much like the precis, you are looking at how the author backs up what they say—and you are selling the reliability of that.
- What is the relationship of this piece to other works in the field?
  - Here you want to mention how this piece stands apart from other stuff you have seen. Is it the piece everyone else references? Or does this author take a different approach to the topic? Here is where you touch on what subtopic this specifically will address.