







## Body Paragraph #1

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| <p><b>Make a Claim / Topic Sentence</b></p> <p>Explain how a character is an example of the theme in your thesis. Focus on one part of the thesis in this body paragraph.</p>  | <p>The motif of tires is initially used to show that Taylor's fears lead her to search for a better life.</p>  |
| <p><b>Evidence: See G-5</b></p> <p>Context </p> <p>Quote # 1 </p> <p>*Skip over phrases like he/she said with an ellipsis (3 dots)</p> | <p>For example, one of the first things we learn about Taylor is that she is "afraid of putting air in a tire ever since [she] saw a tractor tire blow up and throw Newt Hardbine's father over the top of a Standard Oil sign" because he "overfilled the tire" (1).</p>  |
| <p><b>Analysis:</b><br/><b>(3-4 sentences)</b><br/><b>Use G-8 &amp; G-9</b></p> <p>Discuss the connotation of specific words, imagery, symbols, opposites, metaphors, similes &amp; personification. Make connections to other parts of the text.</p>  | <p>The <u>connotation</u> of tractor brings to mind farming. The tractor tire is a <u>symbol</u> for the limited opportunities in Pittman County which mostly include being a farmer or a tobacco farmer's wife. In her attempt to finish high school, we also know Taylor wants to avoid getting pregnant like many of her peers.</p> |
| <p><b>Tie Back</b> your ideas to the topic sentence &amp; explain how your ideas connect to the theme showing something about this scene or character that is not obvious.</p>   | <p>When Taylor speaks of being "afraid of putting air in a tire" we understand that her real fear is what her future will be like staying in Pittman County which is what causes her to leave.</p>   |



## Body Paragraph #1 Continued

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| <p><b>Transition</b></p> <p>Look back to your <b>Topic Sentence</b>. Identify the part of it <b>you still need to prove</b> using different words.</p>  | <p>When Taylor arrives in Arizona, she recognizes the opportunity to build a different kind of life when she meets Mattie.</p>   |
| <p><b>Evidence:</b><br/><b>See G-5</b></p> <p>Context </p> <p>Quote # 2 <br/>Line from <b>the text</b> that supports your topic sentence AND has the motif in it.</p> | <p>As her tires are wearing out, Taylor manages to get her car to a tire shop called Jesus is Lord Used Tires, but is surprised when she meets the owner, Mattie, because “In Pittman if a woman had tried to have her own tire store she would have been run out of business” (59).</p>   |
| <p><b>Analysis:</b><br/><b>(3-4 sentences)</b><br/><b>Use G-8 &amp; G-9</b></p> <p>Discuss the connotation of specific words, imagery, symbols, opposites, metaphors, similes &amp; personification.<br/>Make connections to other parts of the text.</p>   | <p>The phrase “run out” <b>brings to mind</b> something being deliberately chased away. Taylor is suggesting that the women where she grew up were treated as second-class citizens who would be chased away if they went against what was expected of them. The tire business Mattie owns is a <b>symbol</b> that represents her ability to financially support herself and be independent and Taylor respects this and wants this for herself.</p> |
| <p><b>Tie Back</b> your ideas to the topic sentence &amp; explain how your ideas show something about this scene that is not obvious.</p>   | <p>It is because of this that she decides to stay in Arizona and begin building a new life for herself.</p>  |



## Body Paragraph #2

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| <p><b>Make a Claim / Topic Sentence</b></p> <p>Explain how a character is an example of the theme in your thesis. Focus on one part of the thesis in this body paragraph.</p>   | <p style="text-align: center;">Building that life though is not easy, and the motif of tires is used to show how Mattie is becoming a mother figure to Taylor, helping her to be more independent and overcome her fears.</p>  |
| <p><b>Evidence: See G-5</b></p> <p>Context </p> <p>Quote # 1 </p> <p><small>*Skip over phrases like he/she said with an ellipsis (3 dots)</small></p> | <p>Taylor is not sure about what to do when she finds out her tires need replaced and doesn't have the money to pay for it. But then Mattie offers her work. Taylor admits, "When Mattie said she'd throw in two new tires and would show me how to fix my ignition, I knew I'd be a fool to say no" (104-105).</p>  |
| <p><b>Analysis:</b><br/><b>(3-4 sentences)</b><br/><b>Use G-8 &amp; G-9</b></p> <p>Discuss the connotation of specific words, imagery, symbols, opposites, metaphors, similes &amp; personification. Make connections to other parts of the text.</p>   | <p>The <u>connotation</u> of "show me" is learning and independence. The reader can <u>infer</u> that by accepting Mattie's offer, Taylor realizes the value of learning new skills because in this case, when you can fix something yourself, you don't have to pay others to do it for you. This isn't the only thing though that Taylor has learned from Mattie. Earlier, when they first meet, Mattie points out how the desert heat can quickly dehydrate children offering juice along with her wisdom about something Taylor was completely unaware of.</p> |
| <p><b>Tie Back</b> your ideas to the topic sentence &amp; explain how your ideas connect to the theme showing something about this scene or character that is not obvious.</p>  | <p>As a new mother and being on her own for the first time, Taylor has a lot to learn and is realizing she has met someone who can and is willing to show her how to navigate her new world so that she can be independent.</p>  |



## Body Paragraph 2 Continued

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| <p><b>Transition</b></p> <p>Look back to your <b>Topic Sentence</b>. Identify the part of it <b>you still need to prove</b> using different words.</p>  | <p>It is also with Mattie’s help that Taylor is able to overcome her fear of exploding tires so that she can keep the new job Mattie eventually offers her working at Jesus is Lord Used Tires.</p>  |
| <p><b>Evidence:</b><br/><b>See G-5</b></p> <p>Context </p> <p>Quote # 2 <br/>Line from <b>the text</b> that supports your topic sentence AND has the motif in it.</p> | <p>After Taylor confesses her fear about exploding tires, her new boss throws a heavy can at her. Mattie tells Taylor, "Knocked the wind out of you, but it didn't kill you, right? That's twenty-eight pounds of water. Twenty-eight pounds of air is about what you put into a tire. When it hits you, that's what it feels like" (108).</p>   |
| <p><b>Analysis:</b><br/><b>(3-4 sentences)</b><br/><b>Use G-8 &amp; G-9</b></p> <p>Discuss the connotation of specific words, imagery, symbols, opposites, metaphors, similes &amp; personification.<br/>Make connections to other parts of the text.</p>   | <p>The word “kill” <b>brings to mind</b> danger. Mattie uses it to teach Taylor the lesson that sometimes what we are afraid of really isn’t dangerous at all and that our fears are more in our own minds. Mattie knows though that she has to prove this to Taylor and that telling Taylor an exploding tire won’t kill her won’t have the same impact as showing her. This is similar to Taylor’s own mother who deliberately let the air out of the tires of Taylor’s new car when she first bought it because she wanted to make sure her daughter knew what to do. Taylor’s mother knew just like Mattie that telling someone something doesn’t have the same impact as learning something from first hand experience.</p> |
| <p><b>Tie Back</b> your ideas to the topic sentence &amp; explain how your ideas show something about this scene that is not obvious.</p>   | <p>Mattie is quickly becoming more like a mother figure than a boss to Taylor and It is with this support that Taylor is able to begin building a new for life for herself and Turtle.</p>   |

## Body Paragraph #3

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| <p><b>Make a Claim / Topic Sentence</b></p> <p>Explain how a character is an example of the theme in your thesis. Focus on one part of the thesis in this body paragraph.</p>   | <p style="text-align: center;">More importantly, tires are used to show that Taylor is able to overcome her greatest fear of all – her inability to protect Turtle – with the help of Mattie and Lou Ann.</p>   |
| <p><b>Evidence: See G-5</b></p> <p>Context </p> <p>Quote # 1 </p> <p><small>*Skip over phrases like he/she said with an ellipsis (3 dots)</small></p> | <p>After Turtle is attacked in the park, Taylor blames herself and begins to question whether she should keep Turtle. Thinking back to when she first arrived, Taylor says, “I was embarrassed to think of how Mattie must have seen straight through my act. Driving up here ...with my ... smart remarks, acting like two flat tires were all in a day’s work and I just happened to have been born with this kid growing out of my hip” (238).</p> |
| <p><b>Analysis:</b><br/><b>(3-4 sentences)</b><br/><b>Use G-8 &amp; G-9</b></p> <p>Discuss the connotation of specific words, imagery, symbols, opposites, metaphors, similes &amp; personification.<br/>Make connections to other parts of the text.</p>   | <p>“Flat tires” <b><u>bring to mind</u></b> something that is broken and doesn’t work. That is how Taylor feels as a mother. Like the flat tires on her car which make it impossible to drive anywhere, she feels like a terrible mother who can’t help this little girl move forward and that it must have seemed obvious to everyone but her.</p>   |
| <p><b>Tie Back</b> your ideas to the topic sentence &amp; explain how your ideas connect to the theme showing something about this scene or character that is not obvious.</p>  | <p>Taylor is beginning to think Turtle will be better off with someone else and just because Turtle is attached to her, doesn’t mean she is the best person to be her mom.</p>  |

## Body Paragraph #3 continued

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| <p><b>Transition</b></p> <p>Look back to your <b>Topic Sentence</b>. Identify the part of it <b>you still need to prove</b> using different words.</p>   | <p>It is Lou Ann and Mattie’s advice though that begins to make her feel differently.</p>  |
| <p><b>Evidence:</b><br/><b>See G-5</b></p> <p>Context </p> <p>Quote # 2 </p> <p>Line from <b>the text</b> that supports your topic sentence AND has the motif in it.</p> | <p>For example, when Taylor is visiting Mattie in Jesus is Lord Used Tires and is blaming herself about Turtle being attacked in the park, Mattie tells her, “Nobody can protect a child from the world” (239).</p>  |
| <p><b>Analysis:</b><br/><b>(3-4 sentences)</b><br/><b>Use G-8 &amp; G-9</b></p> <p>Discuss the connotation of specific words, imagery, symbols, opposites, metaphors, similes &amp; personification. Make connections to other parts of the text.</p>  | <p>The phrase “Used Tires” <b>brings to mind</b> sharp things that damage tires. Just like tires can’t always avoid sharp things on the road that can damage them, Mattie is trying to show Taylor we can’t always avoid the dangers of the world. <b>This isn’t the first time</b> Taylor has heard this advice. <b>We also see this</b> when Lou Ann tells her the same thing. <b>Previously</b>, Taylor didn’t want to believe it but now hearing it a second time from Mattie, she begins to realize it is true.</p> |
| <p><b>Tie Back</b> your ideas to the topic sentence &amp; explain how your ideas show something about this scene that is not obvious.</p>  | <p>It is with this new realization that Taylor is able to commit to doing everything she can to become Turtle’s permanent mother.</p>  |



