Essay Summary Post-mortem

Timed Writing Prompt

In the space below the questions, write a paragraph answering one or more of the review questions regarding the essay you have just received. Expound on whichever element of your writing you wish.

Introductory paragraph

1. Did my first paragraph consist of only an introduction and a thesis or do I begin to discuss my viewpoint in detail in the introductory paragraph?
2. Do I summarize the intention, thesis and viewpoint of the author in my introduction?
3. Did I clearly and specifically answer the questions asked by the writing prompt?
4. How did I clearly state my position on the author's argument?
5. How did I preview my reasons for holding my position on the author's argument?

Body paragraphs

1. Do my topic sentences clearly indicate the focus of the paragraph?
2. Do my topic sentences remind the reader of my larger thesis?
3. Do I make clear points about the topic of this paragraph? What point(s) did I want to make?
4. Do I use appropriate transitions within my paragraphs and between my paragraphs to indicate to the reader that I'm switching to another point?
5. Does my evidence support my point? Did I only include relevant information, or did I include material that was not relevant?
6. Did I effectively use concluding statements to remind my reader of the intention of the paragraph?

Housekeeping and Grammar

1. Did I commit any shifts in verb tense or subject/verb agreement errors?
2. Did I use sentence fragments?
3. Did I commit any spelling errors?
4. Did I use any run-on sentences?
5. Did I choose my words for their effect or did I choose the first word that came to mind?
6. Did I commit any errors in possession or apostrophe usage?