

Reflection

Like most young adults, Goldie, who is 16, makes some dangerous choices. In this story, she “borrows” an expensive car and goes drag racing.

essay = 5 or more paragraphs about 1 idea

Write an essay explaining why Goldie should or should not have taken the risk of racing Skunk.

topic = what you talk or write about

topic sentence = sentence that tells your topic

Do you think parents or other adults should stop teen-agers from participating in risky activities, or do you think making some risky choices is a normal part of growing up? Write a complete sentence:

I think Goldie should _____. This is your topic sentence. You will copy it into the organizer below.

paragraph = 3 or more sentences about 1 idea

Complete this organizer. First, you will write your introduction paragraph.

introduction = paragraph that tells your topic and 3 big ideas about the topic

Here is an example:

topic sentence: I think Goldie should not have raced Skunk.

Big Idea/Reason 1: Goldie doesn't seem to have much sense.

Big Idea/Reason 2: Goldie should set a good example for other teen-agers.

Big Idea/Reason 3: Her parents would feel terrible if she got hurt.

Now you try it. Copy your topic sentence. Give 3 reasons for your opinion.

body = paragraphs that support big ideas with details, examples, or reasons

I. Introduction

topic sentence: _____.

Big Idea/Reason 1: _____.

Big Idea/Reason 2: _____.

Big Idea/Reason 3: _____.

Now you will explain your reasons. You can give more information (details) or examples to support what you said. You will write 1 paragraph about each of your big ideas. This is the body of your essay.

Here is an example:

Big Idea 1: Goldie doesn't seem to have much sense.

Detail/Example A: She copies whatever her friends do.

Detail/Example B: She doesn't have the experience to know what's safe.

Detail/Example C: She gets in trouble all the time!

Now you try it. Restate (say again) your first Big Idea. Support it with details or examples.