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| **Answering the Essay Question / Prompt** |
| **R** | **Read the Question:** circle the verbs in the prompt. Are you supposed to explain, analyze, compare, contrast, discuss? What aspect of the text is the question asking you to focus on? |
| **A** | **Answer the question** using a strong topic sentence. Remember to mention the author and title of the reading selection, as well as the question.For King’s “Letter from Birmingham Jail,” start your response with how effective you believe his response was in addressing “A Call for Unity” and whether or not you believe he persuaded the eight clergymen of his counterargument. Include a brief description of how he relied on each rhetorical device to help make his point in the letter.  |
| **C** | Ethos**Cite** examples which demonstrate how King creates his ethos. Examples must come from MOST sections of his argument.  | Logos**Cite** examples which demonstrate how King uses logos. Examples must come from ALL sections of his argument. | Pathos**Cite** examples which demonstrate how King uses pathos. Examples must come from ALL sections of his argument. |
| **E** | **Explanations** for each example showing how each ties into your answer. | Explanations for each example showing how each ties into your answer. | Explanation for each example showing how each ties into your answer. |
| **Quick Citation Guide:**Use a signal phrase: *The author claims,* “quote” l *The author says,* “quote.” l *The speaker argues,* “quote.”**Simple Setup*** Ex. On page 4, King writes, “I hope you can see the distinction I am trying to point out.”
* Ex. He states, “I hope you can see the distinction I am trying to point out” (King 4).

(Notice the comma comes after the signal phrase and the end period goes inside the quotation marks UNLESS you are using in-text citation when the period goes AFTER the end parenthesis.**Setup with Context Information**As King is attempting to explain the difference between just and unjust laws and attempting to create a connection with his audience, **he states**, “I hope you can see the distinction I am trying to point out” (4). (Notice the context information **precedes** the signal phrase, which is followed by a comma.)  |

NOW PLAN your essay response. This response will be longer than the Faubus response as King’s text is more complex and is argumentative instead of just persuasive.