**Appendix I: Formal Writing Exemplar**

Using Morris Gleitzman’s novel *Misery Guts* write an essay on the following question:

**Test Question:** “Summarise the story and discuss how the main characters in a text taught you some things about how to live your life.”

***Preliminary work:***

1. **Read the example** paragraphs below, before you start your introductory paragraph.
2. Copy the following **features and example** into your book.

Features introductory paragraph: Example of an introductory paragraph:

* + States the title of the text.
  + States the author.
  + States the genre (type e.g. novel).
  + Briefly summarises the text’s plot.
  + Re-words & refers to the question.
  + States the topics you are going to write about.

**Paragraph One**

In Morris Gleitzman’s novel *Misery Guts*, which is about a boy whose parents are depressed so he tries to cheer them up, the main characters ……. taught me several lessons about life and growing up. They taught me to …(need probably three ideas, so each of these ideas will be the topics of paragraphs 3, 4 and 5) …..

**Paragraph Two**

(Will be a 30 word **summary** of the novel.) This novel is about …….

**Paragraph Three**

(Idea from above.)

**Paragraph Four**

(Idea from above.)

**Paragraph Five**

(Last idea from above.)

Here is an example for a poem called “Out, Out”

*In Robert Frost’s poem ‘Out, Out’, which is about a boy in pioneer America who accidentally cuts off his hand using a buzz saw, the poet uses a range of clever language devices in which makes the poem memorable.* (Here I’ll write the language devices which make it memorable.)

1. **Write the** test question **from above in your book.**
2. **Work out what the question means**. Who are the main characters? What lessons have you learnt? In this story there are four main characters, what lesson does each one teach us? **Write this in your book**.
3. **Write your introductory paragraph** in your English book**.**
4. **Then write paragraph two** which is your summary.
5. **Then write paragraphs three, four and five**.

In each of the paragraphs (3,4, & 5) you must:

1. Make your **statement**. **S**tatement “I learnt …”
2. Provide **evidence** (a quote or example from the text). **E**vidence Something from the story.
3. **Explain** the effect of that example. **E**xplain How did it teach you that?
4. **Develop** the idea and link it to the main theme. **D**evelop Gleitzman wanted us to consider ...