**ENG4CI Diagnostic Writing Task**

What is your all-time hands-down favourite film and why???? Write a paragraph of at least eight sentences. Use specific and thorough evidence to back up your claim (e.g. you can’t just say “because it’s cool”).

Here is the organization I want you to follow:

1. Topic Sentence (identifies your favourite movie)

2. First Reason (be specific, not general—don’t use vague words, like “cool” or “epic”, or “kickass”.

3. Specific example (describe it so I can picture it—assume I have not seen the movie)

4. Explain why you like this particular example.

5. Second Reason (Specific!)

6. Specific example

7. Explain

8. Concluding Sentence (sum up the two reasons for liking this movie the best without repeating the same words)

**Name of the Movie**

Children of Men

**Reason #2**

One man can make a difference

**Reason #1**

Scary Dystopia

**Explain**

-dystopias are supposed to warn you about what will happen

-comforting to see that hope is still possible and that one simple idea (a child) can stop soldiers in their tracks

**Example**

-lead character helps save the one lone pregnant woman

-other individuals help too (The Romanian!)

**Explain**

-explains what happens to a society without hope

-civil war and rebellions reflected in world today

**Example**

-last live birth 21 years ago

-resulting civil war

-excellent explosions

**Sample Paragraph Using My Outline: (Level 4)**

One of my favourite films is called *Children of Men*. I enjoy this movie for several reasons. First, it is a frightening dystopia. Dystopias are educational to watch because they are supposed to warn us of what our world will be like if we continue on as we are now. In *Children of Men*, the civil unrest and rebellions are happening because women have been unable to conceive or carry a live baby to term. In the world of the movie, the youngest person alive is 22 years old. The world is despairing and there are many visually appealing special effects that show the conflict. This film is entertaining because it shows in vivid detail what would happen to a society without hope. While we don’t have fertility problems to the extent that they happen in the movie, our fertility rates in North America have dropped and there is also increasing awareness of how chemicals and other environmental toxins can affect our bodies, so the film is believable. I also have been following the rebellions in the Middle East and in Africa, so seeing similar situations in the film is interesting. Next, I like that the lead character can make a huge difference in the life of one unborn child and its mother. The main character reluctantly agrees to help the pregnant girl escape to somewhere safe so that she can have her child without it being killed or used for political purposes. In fact, the man helps her give birth in a horrible location. This man also convinces other individuals to help the cause, such as the kooky midwife/earth goddess worshipper, his pot smoking friend, and the Romanian lady who creatively uses a shovel to help them escape from the refugee camp. As I watch many areas of our world get worse, I like to think that people will still help each other and that simple acts can have long reaching positive consequences. In conclusion, *Children of Men* is one of my favourite films because it is a realistic yet creative dystopia that has a hopeful ending.

Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Name of the Movie**

**Reason #1**

**Reason #2**

**Example**

**Explain**

**Explain**

**Example**