**Making Connections Paragraph – Recipe/Formula**

Introduction #1

*Introduce the first piece (writing, video etc.); include the author, the title, and a brief summary of the piece.*

Introduction #2

*Introduce the second piece (writing, video etc.); include the author, the title, and a brief summary of the piece.*

Transition Sentence

*Answer the prompt in a general manner.  
Ex. Both stories share certain similarities and differences*

Thesis Statement

*Answer the prompt directly.   
Ex. The main similarity is…*

Prove Thesis for Piece #1

*Prove your claim using direct quotations and/or concrete examples from text #1*

Prove Thesis for Piece #2

*Prove your claim using direct quotations and/or concrete examples from text #2*

Concluding Sentence

*Clearly statement/revisit your thesis.*

**Example #1**

How is the Character Sketch/Monologue you wrote **similar** to the first five chapters of *In the Heat of the Night*?

The character sketch I wrote was about an individual who was covered in tattoos and facial piercings; I described him as aggressive, fearless and a danger to society. In the first five chapters of John Ball’s *In the Heat of the Night*, we are introduced to the central theme of the novel, a number of characters and a murder; we learn that Virgil Tibbs is falsely arrested for the murder and is in fact an African American police officer from Pasadena. Both pieces of writing share certain similarities. The main similarity is that both pieces judge individuals based on their appearance. In the character sketch I wrote, I identified the personality traits of someone I had never met. Based on the tattoos and the piercings, I assumed they were aggressive, fearless and a danger to society. Even if I am wrong, the individual clearly showed “their anger and aggression on their face”, allowed other human beings “to permanently scar and disfigure their face” and ultimately “possess no moral compass or understand virtues.” In the novel, *In the Heat of the Night*, a murder has taken place and there is a murderer on the loose. Police Officer Sam Wood is on the hunt when he comes across a black man at the train station. Sam “sized [the man] up at a glance, and knew at once that he did not belong in Wells” (14). Sam assumed that the man was the murderer “because he’s a Negro” (57). While the suspicions are put to rest by the end of chapter 2, the other character’s judge Virgil Tibbs just as harshly. In a conversation with Duena Mantoli, Sam admits that because Virgil is a Negro, there may be trouble (57). Clearly both pieces of writing are similar in that they both have examples of harsh judgement based on appearance.

**Example #2**

***Compare and contrast*** *Charlotte, the main character in Budge Wilson’s “The Metaphor” and the speaker in Robert Frost’s poem, “The Road Not Taken”.*

“The Metaphor” by Budge Wilson is a short story about a student named Charlotte who is faced with tough decisions: does she defend her teacher and become an outcast? Or follow the crowd and fit in? In the poem “The Road Not Taken” by Robert Frost, the speaker is also faced with a decision and describes his journey. Both stories share certain similarities and differences. The main similarity is that both Charlotte and the speaker have decisions to make. Charlotte in Grade 10 must choose between fitting in or defending one of her favorite teachers. Miss Hancock beats to her own drum, and the students make fun of her. Charlotte is often “caught in a stranglehold somewhere between shocked embarrassment and a terrible desire for concealment.” Because Charlotte wants to fit in, she chooses to follow the crowd and stays quiet. Similarly, the speaker in the poem is also faced with a decision. S/He takes into consideration the possible routes s/he can take. The one road “was grassy and wanted wear.” The other, was covered in leaves and “no step had trodden black.” He chose to take the “road less traveled.” The main difference in these two pieces of writing are the outcomes of the decisions. Charlotte choses to stay quiet, and not defend her teacher. When Miss Hancock suddenly dies, Charlotte is filled with regret and guilt. She exclaims, “I killed her. We killed her. But especially me” which proves she regrets her decision and wishes she could take it back. In contrast, we can assume the speaker in the poem is happy with her/his decision. While s/he may be “telling this with a sigh,” s/he is glad they took the road less travelled because it “has made all the difference.” While the reader does not get a full picture of the outcome, they can assume the speaker does not have any regrets; s/he is happy with the outcome. Clearly both pieces of writing have certain similarities and differences.

**Making Connections Paragraph Planning Sheet**

**USE MY EXAMPLE TO HELP YOU!**

**PROMPT:**

Story #2 – *Summary (1-2 sentences)  
Include Author/Title if applicable*

Story #1 – *Summary (1-2 sentences)  
Include Author/Title if applicable*

Answer the prompt (general statement):

Claim (specific statement):

Story #2 – *Specifics – quotes (pt. form)*

Story #1 – *Specifics – quotes (pt. form)*

Concluding Sentence:

Clearly

Final Paragraph (piece together the information you gathered up top).

**DOUBLE SPACE**