Use the chart below to identify the parts of your *thesis* statement.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Topic** | **Opinion** | **Why/because/so what** |
|  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Topic Sentence One (Subtopic One):** |

**Evidence**

There are three main things you want to keep in mind when it comes to supporting your ideas:

1. Make sure the reader understands why the evidence supports and advances the claim (there should be a clear link to your thesis).
2. Make sure the evidence you use shows that you know the topic well and have thought about it carefully. The evidence should move beyond a surface effort. This also means that you should not simply list everything you come up with that is somehow related to your topic. Instead look at all your examples and then select the strongest evidence.
3. Make sure you organize your evidence into meaningful points that build on each other (transitions).

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Source & credibility--** Name the source & explain what it is credible in one sentence. | **Say**—What does the text say? Write and cite the quote or name the evidence. | **Mean**—What does the evidence mean? Put the evidence into your own words. | **Matter**—What is the significance of the evidence in regard to your topic sentence?  Think analysis here. |
| 1. |  |  |  |
| 2. |  |  |  |
| 3. |  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| **Topic Sentence Two (Subtopic Two):** |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Source & credibility--** Name the source & explain what it is credible in one sentence. | **Say**—What does the text say? Write and cite the quote or name the evidence. | **Mean**—What does the evidence mean? Put the evidence into your own words. | **Matter**—What is the significance of the evidence in regard to your topic sentence?  Think analysis here. |
| 1. |  |  |  |
| 2. |  |  |  |
| 3. |  |  |  |

Review your work above and then answer the following questions:

1. Explain how each topic sentence clearly address the how and why for the topic + “so what” of your thesis?

2. Which pieces of evidence are the strongest for your first subtopic? Why?

3. Which pieces of evidence will you use to support your second subtopic? Why?

4. Do you look at the big picture in addressing this question? Think about it carefully. Do you address the long-term effect of teaching graphic novels here?