

Name _____

Date _____

Sudan Writing Handout

Complicated problems are often difficult to summarize. The writing process is a useful way to explore a problem because it gives us a structure with which we can think clearly about it. Read through Cate Malek's piece again, this time focus on the structure of her research paper more than the facts she includes. This will help you structure your own research paper after you've gathered your facts.

Narrative Lead (paragraphs 1 – 3) Narrative leads draw the reader in. They foreshadow the main idea of the essay.

1. *Who is the Narrative Lead about? What main idea does it highlight?*

Transition (line 1, paragraph 4) "Hassan's story is one of thousands from the Darfur region of Sudan." Transitions link two separate ideas.

2. *Write another possible transition that would effectively link the Narrative Lead and the context section:*

Context (paragraphs 4 – 6) In any research paper you need to give some general context or background information about your topic and why it's important.

3. *What background information does Malek chose to include?*

Thesis / Argument / Main Idea: (paragraph 6) "What makes the Sudan such an intractable conflict?" The thesis focuses the essay. We know that we will read about the Sudan's intractable conflict, not the art in the Sudan, nor MTV in the Sudan. Everything in the essay will support the paper's thesis.

4. *Malek chose to use a question to focus her essay not a statement. Often writers use statements as theses. Write a statement that would work as a thesis for Malek's article.*

Body section 1: Roots of the Problem (The Beginning, paragraph 1 –2) This supplies the basic who, what, where, and why.

5. *Where does the action take place?*

6. *Who are the parties involved?*

7. *How did they get along?*

8. *How do these two paragraphs support Malek's thesis?*

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| Body section 2: Important Events (The Beginning, paragraph 3 – 5) These paragraphs give us a basic timeline for the disputes that fueled the conflict. | |
| List the results of the events in paragraph 3 – 5 (Note: Malek does not describe any impressive sports achievements or advances in women’s rights (which may or may not have occurred during that period). Each historical event supports her thesis by showing why the situation in Darfur is an intractable conflict.) | |
| Event | Result (Escalation) |
| 9. The government replaced tribal councils with gov. programs | |
| 10. Darfur was hit by a drought | |
| 11. The Sudan Liberation Army rebelled | |
| 12. President al-Bashir armed the Janjaweed | |

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| Body section 3: The Problem (Devils on Horseback) Malek focuses on the main reason that Darfur is an example of an intractable conflict: the Janjaweed. | |
| 13. How have the Janjaweed “escalated” a conflict “into war”? | |
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| 14. What were/are their goals? | |
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| Body section 4: Reaction / Response (The International Response) Malek shows how the responses have not solved or simplified the conflict at all. This section also directly supports her thesis by illustrating the complexity of the problem. | |
| List the results of the events and the possible problems with proposals described in the International Response section. | |
| Event/Proposal | Result/ Possible Results |
| 15. Humanitarian aid workers established refugee camps | |
| 16. Proposed peacekeeping intervention | |
| 17. Peace talks | |
| 18. African Union troops sent to Darfur | |
| 19. Possible United Nations Security Council sanctions | |

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| Conclusion: Problems and Possible Solutions (What Can Be Done) Malek concludes her piece by proposing possible solutions. | |
| List the proposals she suggests for the problems that she describes: | |
| Problems | Possible Solutions |
| 20. One group victimizes the other | |
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| 21. The return of refugees to destroyed homes |
| 22. War criminals |
| 23. Drought |
| 24. Mistrust |
| 25. Sudan's larger war |
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Now it's your turn. Using Cate Malek's article as a model, research and write your own article on the intractable conflict in Rwanda. Use Malek's structure to help guide your research.

Narrative Lead- You don't always have to include a narrative lead in a research paper. Sometimes a relevant quotation can be another hook to pull the reader in and give your research paper an interesting beginning. You also can skip the lead and begin your introduction with context for your thesis. You decide. If you come across a quotation that introduces your thesis, or if you come across a personal story that dramatizes your thesis, write it down here: (sources?)

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Introduction: Context and thesis: Give a few brief facts that lead up to your thesis. Like Cate Malek, you can give some facts describing just how big Rwanda's intractable conflict was. (sources?)

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Thesis: *What made the genocide in Rwanda such an intractable conflict? Or write your own version of a statement that could serve as a thesis.*

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Body Section 1: The Roots of the Problem.

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| 1. Where? (sources?) |
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| 2. Who? | (sources?) |
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| 2. What did they want? | (sources?) |
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| 3. Why? | (sources?) |
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| Body Section 2: Important events of the Conflict During the Genocide | | |
| List the events and their results here: | | |
| Events | Results | (sources?) |
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| Body Section 3: Important Events of the Conflict During the Refugee Crisis | | |
| List the events and their results here: | | |
| Events | Results | (sources?) |
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| Conclusion: Towards Reconciliation. What steps were taken to stop the crises and how did they work? | | |
| Step toward reconciliation | Result | (sources?) |
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| Working Bibliography As you go, please make a working bibliography. Every time you start using a new source, write it down here so that you remember where you got your information. | | |
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