Hunger Games: A sample topic outline - practice by expanding the statements into full paragraphs

The topic is **: Describe at least ONE relevant key idea in the text.**   
 **Explain why the key idea(s) in the text could still be relevant today.**   
*Idea: Inhumanity vs. humanity*

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|  | **Paragraph 1** |
| S – **state** main point | Humankind’s tendency to behave poorly towards fellow humans. |
| E – **explain** it in relation to topic | The Capitol’s demand for resources brought about by capitalism and corrupt totalitarian government. |
| X – **example** and quote | Katniss’ poverty, her poaching and the risk of retribution from peacekeepers |
| E – **explain** further | Keeping the districts poor and inadequately resourced ensures the government’s power and control. |
| Y – **your** response to second part of topic | Parallels with cruel regimes (Apartheid era South Africa, the violence in modern day Syria, Israel vs.Palestine, the immense poverty gap in wealthy western nations such as the USA and even NZ. Colonial oppression in NZ, Aus, USA and segregation of certain members/groups in society). |

**Paragraph 2**

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| *S –* ***state*** *main point* |
| *E –* ***explain*** *it in relation to topic* |
| *X –* ***example*** *and quote* |
| *E –* ***explain*** *further* |
| *Y –* ***your*** *response to second part of topic* |
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| Desensitisation towards violence and cruelty – seeing it as entertainment |
| The Hunger Games – a cruel blood sport for televised entertainment |
| Sponsors, betting on tributes, watching it live, celebrating the reapings, forcing districts to watch |
| Panem is a dystopian society rife with prejudice brought about by class systems, a massive rich/poor gap and obscene materialism and consumerism. |
| Parallels with actual TV News and current reality TV, illustrating the blurred lines between both.  Author is making an indirect (yet unsubtle) comment about humankind and our humanity (or lack of). |
| Desensitisation towards violence and cruelty – seeing it as entertainment |

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| *Y –* ***your*** *response to second part of topic* |

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| **Paragraph 3** |
| Hope for humanity. |
| Despite the odds, humanity has in its heart the ability to make the world a more humane place. |
| Katniss volunteering on behalf of Prim, befriending and protecting Rue, risking herself to save Peeta’s life. Peeta’s humanity towards Katniss. |
| There is humanity in the act of saving the life of someone else when it is of no benefit to he who helps and possibly even a risk to their own personal safety |
| Helping those in need; protecting the weak and vulnerable. The growing trend towards standing up to oppressive regimes. Exposing corporate corruption.  Holding those who commit acts of inhumanity to account. |

*You obviously can write an entirely different set of statements about the main ideas but if you follow these as a guide then you will have worked out how to write a full essay. Please realise these are ideas and suggestions not the first line of a paragraph and you should write your own version of this essay perhaps using the elements as guidelines.*

*Don’t forget to put in quotations as supporting evidence for what you are saying. And don’t forget to look through your notes for other ideas Craft an introduction and a conclusion.*