**INSTRUCTIONS FOR Making Connections Essay**

First **make the connection you plan to discuss very clear: Establish what the key idea is that you are discussing.**

If your texts deal with courage/ family love/survival/power, manipulation.

**Then MAKE A STATEMENT about this** and indicate what you think the connections between the texts are

***Eg Sample Intro***

***Four texts presenting of the use of power in varying ways are The Hunger Games by Suzanne Collins, What’s eating Gilbert Grape directed by Lasse Hallstrom, Big Brother, Little Sister by Witi Ihimaera and……………….***

***These texts show us the different aspects of power. In some, the power people have is used for good. For instance, in Gilbert Grape Becky ‘s influence over Gilbert has the power to make him see his way of approaching his life should be changed. In other texts, power is used negatively. In Hunger Games for example, we see the government abuse its power to maintain its control and luxurious lifestyle. People gain power from their own characters or response to their situation. The short story shows us how characters use power negatively. We can also see some people have power by means of their position of authority or because they use force, violence or other means to support their power over others.***

**Then, take each one of the statements in the introduction to use as your topic sentence, if appropriate. So, discussing the film about Gilbert Grape you would state: Becky’s influence over Gilbert Grape has the power to help him change his life. *(this would be your topic sentence. You would then add details here to explain and make a convincing point. You would follow this with further discussion of other examples in the other texts as to how they are similar of different in their representation of the use of power)***

In each discuss as an extra **how** the theme is presented :

**Through character/ dialogue/ events/symbolism/ language use/visual images**

and say **what is shown:**

**( Eg effects of power good /bad; reason for the use of power; reasons for the loss of power/ exercise of power/need for use of power; consequences for the powerful and powerless; audience reactions; writer/director’s purposes in presenting this) This helps you reach Merit or Excellence.**

Explain and expand each statement that you make. ADD DETAILS:

Use quotes as evidence and whatever other evidence you like to support what you are saying.

Make comments that show your understanding and evaluation of **the way** the theme ideas are being represented, as well as about **what** is being shown.

**LINK by pointing out how this connects to the next text.**

It is vital that you use connectives to create a sense of comparisions. *Eg Unlike The Hunger Games*, the central character in the film seems to lack power completely.