**You Who Answers**

**English**

**September 2014**

Today I’d like you to help one of your peers. After holding a draft lottery, you will select one of the “Questions Quiz” sheets tacked to the wall. Consider a question that you can honestly and thoughtfully answer. Address the writer (his/her nickname) and include the following required elements:

* 8-10 sentences of explanation
* a sensitive and thoughtful tone; I will be reading your responses before they’re given back to students
* use of at least ONE of the first ten Words of the Week
* use of at least TWO writing techniques from the Game of Thrones excerpt
* use of at least ONE of these transition words at the start of a new sentence: Furthermore, …. However,… In addition, … Lastly, … Truthfully, …

Here’s a summary of the techniques used:

1. Rep for effect – repeated words or phrases to build emotion or to emphasize
2. Punctuation variety. dashes = to separate a big point or make it stand out

colons = to intro a list or big point or quote

semi-colons = to separate two full yet related sentences

1. Figures of Speech – alliteration, similes, metaphors, puns, onomatopoeia
2. Big Words
3. Sentence Variety – short sentence for effect; long ones that aren’t run ons
4. Dialogue or timely quote
5. “Rule of Three” when describing something
6. Rhetorical question

Here’s a sample response that I wrote for a question of my own:

Query: Why can’t I stop coveting bigger trucks than mine?

Response:

Dear Trace Gallagher (my fake name):

In childhood, many young boys grow up playing with **Hotwheels, Optimus Prime, and Tonka trucks**. Gender stereotypes and related issues **notwithstanding**, a love of trucks becomes engrained in a kid’s mind and can stay with him for the rest of his life. Children – and even adults – want bigger presents, more fries, bigger bank accounts, **so what’s wrong with wanting a bigger truck?** In your case, maybe it’s because a more powerful truck allows you to pull a better trailer, thus providing more opportunities for family time. **In addition**, trucks these days are far more fuel efficient that older compact trucks, of the type that you might own. **There’s no** right or wrong. **There’s no** good or bad. **There’s** only what’s right or good for you and your loved ones. Select a vehicle that…