**Writing Notes: “To Build a Fire” Research Essay Developmental Paragraph**

**Example:**

1. **Write your topic sentence. Be sure to reference your MI and the specific developmental details you will be discussing in this paragraph.**

Ex. The tenets of Naturalism used in “To Build a Fire” to highlight the ways in which mankind is vulnerable to the influence of the natural world include the development of a pessimistic tone, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. **Craft lead in for the DQ. What three components do you need for the LI.?** Ex. At the beginning of the story, London provides a dismal description of Yukon Trail, writing, “There was no sun or promise of sun, although there was not a cloud in the sky. It was a clear day. However, there seemed to be an indescribable darkness over the face of things” (64).
2. **Begin crafting your analysis. Remember analysis is initiated by using the formula of:**

Possessive + Noun + Strong Verb

Ex. London’s (possessive) opening portrayal (noun) of the Yukon reveals (strong verb) the author’s cynical attitude towards what he believes is the man’s ignorant attempt to travel through the cold. The initial imagery used to characterize the man’s journey, such as the lack of sun and the “indescribable darkness” that permeates the land, suggests that it is pre-determined that he will not make it safely to Henderson Camp. London maintains a critical perspective regarding man’s obliviousness to the power of nature throughout the text, as he incorporates indicators, like the lack of sunshine, that suggest the man is doomed. Unfortunately, the man, who does not possesses a name and can therefore be considered a representation of all of humanity, remains oblivious to such foreshadowing.

Questions to Guide Your Analysis:

1. How is this example from the text representative of a specific Naturalist tenet?
2. Close-read the DQ - What specific elements of the DQ connect to this Naturalist tenet?
3. How does the incorporation of this Naturalist tenet develop the conflict of man versus nature?