**Constructed Response (Short and Prose) Structure**

**SHORT Constructed Response (Paragraph format—eight sentence minimum)**

Claim: Your introductory statement (also known as a “thesis statement”).

Evidence: 1st important statement or detail supporting the claim

Reasoning: Elaborate, explain, example (support that detail—may take 1 to 3 sentences)

Evidence: 2nd important statement or detail supporting the claim

Reasoning: Elaborate, explain, example (support that detail—may take 1 to 3 sentences)

Evidence: 3rd important statement or detail supporting the claim

Reasoning: Elaborate, explain, example (support that detail—may take 1 to 3 sentences)

Explanation: Restate your claim in a concluding statement

**PROSE Constructed Response (Essay format—five paragraph minimum)**

First Paragraph

Claim Paragraph: Write an introductory paragraph. Your CLAIM is the LAST SENTENCE of your introductory paragraph (also known as a “thesis statement”).

Second Paragraph

First Evidence/Reasoning Paragraph: Evidence: 1st important statement or detail supporting the claim followed by Reasoning: Elaborate, explain, example (support that detail—should take 4-5 sentences)

Third Paragraph

Second Evidence/Reasoning Paragraph: Evidence: 2nd important statement or detail supporting the claim followed by Reasoning: Elaborate, explain, example (support that detail—should take 4-5 sentences)

Fourth Paragraph

Third Evidence/Reasoning Paragraph: Evidence: 3rd important statement or detail supporting the claim followed by Reasoning: Elaborate, explain, example (support that detail—should take 4-5 sentences)

Fifth Paragraph

Explanation Paragraph: Summarize your evidence and reasoning. Write your explanation statement by restating your claim at the end of the paragraph. Your EXPLANATION is the LAST SENTENCE of your essay.

Before you submit: EDIT!! REVISE!! FINALIZE!!

Short Constructed Response Example:

PROMPT: *Given the choice, would you want to know the exact date of your death?*

Knowing one’s own expiration date would be more of a blessing than a curse. Personally, I would love to know exactly when I am going to die because I could plan for the most important things I want to accomplish in this lifetime. For example, I have always wanted to travel the world and visit every continent. Backpacking through Thailand and watching the sun set on Patong Beach would be first on my adventure list. Another reason I would want to know the date of my death would be to prepare loved ones and friends for my passing. Since everyone would know my time on Earth is limited, they would all make efforts to spend time with me and enjoy every second of my company. They would also have time to prepare themselves emotionally for my death, which might help them through the mourning process more easily. Finally, I would want to know the date of my death so I could try to cheat Fate. Knowing the exact date of my passing could provide me with the knowledge and potential to change my destiny; I would have the opportunity to prepare and be proactive. Some may prefer to let death take them by surprise, but the benefits of knowing when I am going to kick the bucket will make my life that much better in the meantime.