Essay Development Handout

*The Endless Steppe*

Follow these steps to pre-write and write your draft:

Pre-writing

\_\_\_ Fill in the brainstorming handout (This must be turned in.)

\_\_\_ Outline your essay using the paragraph form below.

I. Introduction

\_\_\_ Lead (refer to handout on “Creating Effective Leads” for ideas)

\_\_\_ Transition from your lead to your thesis statement (transitional word, title, author, short summary)

\_\_\_ Thesis Statement

II. Body

\_\_\_ Topic Sentence using your first point from thesis

\_\_\_ Explanation of your topic argument

\_\_\_ Supporting quote

\_\_\_ Closing Statement relating to your thesis statement

\_\_\_ Topic Sentence using your first point from thesis

\_\_\_ Explanation of your topic argument

\_\_\_ Supporting quote

\_\_\_ Closing Statement relating to your thesis statement

\_\_\_ Topic Sentence using your first point from thesis

\_\_\_ Explanation of your topic argument

\_\_\_ Supporting quote

\_\_\_ Closing Statement relating to your thesis statement

III. Conclusion

\_\_\_ Restate thesis in different words

\_\_\_ Transition from restated thesis to End Statement

\_\_\_ End Statement (connect to lead)

Mechanics

­­­\_\_\_ Is my grammar correct and have I maintained the same verb tense throughout?

\_\_\_ Have I used punctuation properly?

\_\_\_ Is my writing clear?

––– Have I included the page numbers in parentheses following quotations? “Blah, blah” (87).

Ask an adult to read your essay and give you feed back. Ask them to look for awkward wording or unclear points.