

## IDENTIFYING KEY FEATURES

Writer \_\_\_\_\_

Reader \_\_\_\_\_

Writer: Number the paragraphs of your essay in the margin.

Reader: For each of the following, find where it occurs in the essay, use parentheses to isolate it, and write the term in the margin of the paper.

1. Lead: the way into the subject of the paper; what grabs the reader's attention
2. Thesis: the main idea of the paper
3. Map: a sentence, or part of a sentence, that lists (in the order in which the essay discusses them) the main subtopics for the essay
4. Specific examples: concrete details that help to explain the topic
5. Definitions of terms: explaining unfamiliar terminology
6. Topic sentences of paragraphs: the sentence which gives the main idea of the paragraph
7. Paragraph hooks: repeating a key word or idea from a previous paragraph in the opening sentence of the following paragraph to "hook" the two paragraphs together
8. Transition words: such words as "first," "next," "another," "in addition," and "finally" which link ideas between sentences and paragraphs and signal your reader that a new idea or part of the idea is coming up
9. Body paragraphs: those paragraphs which develop the main ideas
10. Conclusion: the final summation or conclusion reached about the thesis