Subject & Theme

Subject: a broad topic or category for a piece of literature. It is usually expressed in a single word or short phrase. For example: this is a story about Fear.

Theme: a central idea, concern, or purpose in a literary work.

 -allows the reader to determine a belief or idea about life

 -always supported by the story

 -different readers may identify different themes

 -not every story has a strong theme

-typically, a theme can be expressed in a statement or sentence. For example, fear can lead to ruin, or appearance isn’t everything.

Your Job: Theme paragraph for the movie “Invictus,”

Come up with an original theme statement (not word) that fits for this movie.

* This theme statement will become a part of your topic sentence
* For example: *The movie “Invictus,” clearly illustrates the theme ‘people are capable of changing.’*
1. Come up with 4-5 examples from the movie (quotes or scenes), (this can include the background info about Apartheid), which SUPPORT/PROVE your theme statement.
* For example: Mandela saying *“Obviously, now I am 100% behind the Springboks”* meaning he no longer feels they are a symbol of apartheid – is an appropriate supporting detail for the theme, ‘people are capable of changing’. Make sure your supporting examples FIT WITH YOUR THEME!
1. Further support your theme with personal ideas, by explaining your examples in more depth, and/or by relating this theme to stories or examples from your life.
2. Organize your ideas and examples logically! Make sure you have flow (use conjunctions) and that all of your ideas are explained.
3. Have a strong closing sentence. It should relate back to your theme that you started with, and should summarize the key ideas of your paragraph.

MINIMUM 10 SENTENCES – TYPED – DOUBLE-SPACED