English 11R

**In-Class Guided Writing of #26** – The Glass Castle and “Saturday at the Canal”

**Period 1:**

**TOPIC SENTENCE**: In the excerpt from The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls and the poem, "Saturday at the Canal" by Gary Soto, both authors convey that **(THEME)**: people often want to escape their environments and this desire can be a strong motivator. **Idea 1**: Jeannette Walls expresses a strong desire to escape her poor living conditions in Welch in order to find success. **Cite 1:** Walls writes, "I'm getting on the next bus out of here. If the buses stop running, I'll hitchhike. I"ll walk if I have to. Go ahead and build the Glass Castle, but don't do it for me." **Expand/Explain**: This **shows** that Jeannette will find her way to New York no matter what it takes. **TRANSITION:** Likewise, the speaker in the poem also desires escape. **Idea 2:** He dislikes his everyday life and wants to be free and moving like the waters they're watching. **Cite 2**: The author writes, "We wanted to get out. The years froze as we sat on the bank. Our eyes followed the water, White-tipped but dark underneath, racing out of town." **Expand/Explain 2:** Like Walls, the speaker is dissatisfied with what this environment has to offer and longs for something more. **Clincher:** When people are discontent with their current situations, the desire to escape can make them want for something more.

**Period 5:**

**Topic Sentence (State TAGS and Themes):** In the excerpt from the memoir, The Glass Castle, by Jeannette Walls and the poem, "Saturday at the Canal," by Gary Soto, both authors express **that** ***many people wish to escape their environments, and when they realize that escape is possible, it can be very motivating.***  **Idea 1:** In the excerpt, Walls is a teenager who feels confined by her setting and decides to leave. **Cite 1:** The author writes, "I'd been speaking hypothetically about moving to New York a year early. But as I walked, I realized that if I wanted to, I could up and go." **Expand/Explain 1:** When Jeannette realizes that escape is a possibility, she decides to leave no matter what happens or what it will take. **Transition:** Likewise, the speaker in the poem is also motivated to escape his current life. **Idea 2:** As the speaker reflects on his current life, he decides that staying isn't an option and wants to leave. **Cite 2:** The speaker says, "By bus or car, By the sway of train over a long bridge, we wanted to get out." **Expand/Explain 2:** The speaker and his friend are unhappy where they are living, and they are inspired to break free of the boredom that surrounds them. **Clincher:** Both passages show that when people want to leave, it can spur a strong desire to escape at any cost.

**Period 5:**

**Topic Sentence (State TAGS and Themes):** In the excerpt from the memoir, The Glass Castle, by Jeannette Walls and the poem, "Saturday at the Canal," by Gary Soto, both authors express **that** ***many people wish to escape their environments, and when they realize that escape is possible, it can be very motivating.***  In the excerpt, Walls is a teenager who feels confined by her setting and decides to leave.The author writes, "I'd been speaking hypothetically about moving to New York a year early. But as I walked, I realized that if I wanted to, I could up and go."When Jeannette realizes that escape is a possibility, she decides to leave no matter what happens or what it will take. Likewise, the spe`aker in the poem is also motivated to escape his current life. As the speaker reflects on his current life, he decides that staying isn't an option and wants to leave. The speaker says, "By bus or car, By the sway of train over a long bridge, we wanted to get out."The speaker and his friend are unhappy where they are living, and they are inspired to break free of the boredom that surrounds them. Both passages show that when people want to leave, it can spur a strong desire to escape at any cost.