You have read five stories by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle featuring Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson. In each you have learned how Holmes uses deductive reasoning, inference, and a wide variety of tools, strategies and resources to solve mysteries. Many of these can be applied by students to help them achieve academic success.

For this assignment, you must think of three things that Holmes' does that you could bring into your academic practice. It could be to improve your reasoning skills, keep a portfolio of research (either on the computer or through books and journals), or develop better questioning strategies. Whatever you choose, you must explain the technique, and then explain how you can use it yourself.

* This theme will be five paragraphs long.
* The first paragraph must be an introduction paragraph and contain a one-sentence thesis statement. It must be at least five-sentences total, including the thesis.
* The next three paragraphs will be body paragraphs; each will contain a topic sentence, and supporting details (major and minor). Each body paragraph must have at least 6 and no more than 9 sentences.
* The fifth paragraph will be a concluding paragraph; it must be at least 5 sentences long and restate the thesis (see lecture on conclusions).

In addition, your essay must demonstrate that you have learned the skills we have been practicing in the course:

* sentence variety
* correct use of vocabulary
* summarization/restatement of ideas
* correct use of grammar and spelling

This week you will complete a pre-writing activity, create a formal outline, and write the first paragraph and thesis. You will get feedback from your instructor on Monday, then you will have two days to develop a rough draft for the theme which will be turned into the Group area for peer review. You have two days to complete the review process, and then three full days to revise your draft into a polished paper.