**Sample intro paragraph and triple stuffed OREO paragraph**

**Here is the intro paragraph of my essay on George Orwell’s nonfiction essay called *Shooting an Elephant*:**

*(INTERESTING LEAD)* A funny cartoon about how writers come up with inspiration depicts a young frustrated woman trying to type up the first chapter in her novel. Her screen is blank, and the caption reads “Thanks, mom and dad, for being such normal, kind parents—now I have NOTHING to write about!” True, writers of nonfiction and even fiction use their own life experiences to inspire their work. Unlike the young woman in the cartoon, *(AUTHOR)* George Orwell has plenty of gruesome stories to tell…one in particular, *(TITLE) Shooting an Elephant*, reveals *(THESIS STATEMENT)* Orwell’s rhetorical choices to use *(RHETORICAL CHOICE #1)* **graphic details** and *(RHETORICAL CHOICE #2)* **cultural differences** to tell the heart-breaking account of his struggle as a police officer in the wave of British Imperialism, to spotlight his conflicting feelings of sympathy and hatred toward the Burmese people, and to admit his stubborn pride that resulted in the unnecessary death of a mighty elephant.

**BELOW is an example of ONE complete creamy layer of a TRIPLE STUFFED OREO**

*(TOPIC SENTENCE)* Orwell’s knack for painting vivid pictures with words comes at a price; the graphic descriptions can unsettle the steadiest of readers. *(CD)* In the second paragraph Orwell describes the Burmese locals as “in cages...wretched...gray...and scarred,”*(CV)* causing *(CM)* the reader to feel shock that a civilized country such as England would treat is prisoners inhumanely—the skin colored gray *(CV)* connotes death and decay, and the scars *(CV)* suggest perpetual torture. *(TRANSITION)* Furthermore,these grim words *(CV)* establish that *(CM)* imperialistic abuse by the British perpetrated upon oppressed citizens reduces those citizens to helpless and abused animals in their own home country. *(EXTRA CM about why the writing is persuasive)* Orwell’s persuasiveness comes in the form of graphic images of suffering human beings at the hands of British invaders who should not even be there in the first place.

*(CD)* Orwells’ conflicting emotions are described with precision as he enduresthe “hideous laughter…sneering yellow faces, and insults hooted after me” while at the same time admitting that “secretly, of course – I was all for the Burmese and all against their oppressors, the British,” which included himself as a British police officer. Such conflicting emotions have placed Orwell in a lose-lose situation wracked by personal guilt and frustration. *(CV)* In addition, *(CM)* Orwell’s inner turmoil is what ultimately prompts him to kill the elephant out of pride and a desire to avoid ridicule from the Burmese villagers watching him. *(EXTRA CM about why the writing is persuasive)* Part of the strength of Orwell’s writing is his ability to draw the reader into his dilemma—we can see ourselves giving into pride in order to prove ourselves superior and avoid looking weak or indecisive. Orwell’s discomfort becomes our own. We have all done or said something to please the crowd rather than stand alone and face mockery for our beliefs. *(CD)* Finally, the haunting descriptions of shooting the elephant are the stuff of nightmares as “the thick blood welled out of him like red velvet, but still he did not die…the tortured breathing continued without a pause.” The seemingly endless details in the last paragraphs *(CV)* capture *(CM)* the reader’s deepest sympathy and horror. *(CM)* Using “he” and “him” as pronouns referring to the elephant humanizes this great beast, which in turn, *(CV)* accentuates *(CM)* the horror of his slow death even more. *(EXTRA CM about why the writing is persuasive which also serves as a CONCLUDING SENTENCE TO THIS OREO PARAGRAPH)* Undoubtedly, Orwell’s uncensored diction is the perfect vehicle to describe the unstable reality of the Burmese living under British rule and the young Orwell’s encounter with his worst self resulting in one of his greatest regrets.

**NOTE: STUDENTS, IF YOU CAN GET TWO TRIPLE OREOS LIKE THE ONE ABOVE IN YOUR ESSAY, YOU WILL ABSOLUTELY PASS—OR EVEN TWO DOUBLE OREOS WILL PASS!**