

Writing questions in the Fast Forward Courses

Checklist in the Skill Checks:

Summarize Author's Position



Not yet answered

Read the following conclusion from a review of the movie *Run!* Identify the author's position on whether others should see the movie, as well as the reasons the author gives for taking this position. If you cannot find the claim directly stated anywhere, you will have to infer it.

So, unless you are easily entertained by watching things blow up, you won't find much in this movie to amuse or engage you. The characters are two-dimensional, the actors' performances are amateur, and the plot is just too confusing to follow. The trailers *do* make *Run!* look fun, but all of the best stunts are revealed in the trailer. Frankly, it's not worth sitting through the entire movie, hoping to see anything better than what was shown in the trailer. There are plenty of worthwhile action movies in theaters right now, so my advice would be to run from *Run!*

Summarize the author's position. **Use the composing screen to write your summary.**

In the Skill Check first write your essay, then print the rubric to help you grade the writing. For best results have someone check the results for you.

Did you briefly relate the author's claim and reasons for that claim in your own words? Is your summary shorter than the original argument? You may have written a summary similar to the following: *Run! is not worth going to see because the characters have no depth, the acting is poor, the plot is difficult to follow, the best stunts are shown in the trailer, and there are better action movies currently playing in theaters.*



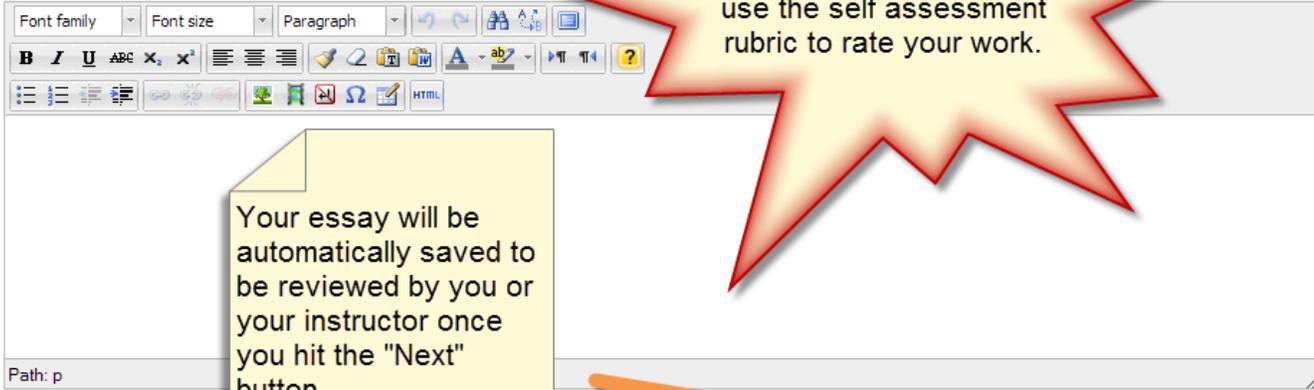
Use the rubric to help you self-grade



Checklist in the Lesson and Topic Reviews:

Text 1: Importance of Forests	Text 2: Managing Forests
<p>How often do you think about forests? Your answer could be, "A few times a year: when I want to go hiking or camping." Or maybe your answer is "never." However, some people who work in forests might reply "everyday." Regardless of your answer, here are some facts compiled by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the United Nations that might surprise you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• About 1.6 billion people around the world depend on forests for their livelihoods.• 32 million acres of forests are lost each year.• The loss of forests is responsible for up to 20% of greenhouse gas emissions.• Ten countries are responsible for 87% of the global loss of forests.• Sixty-seven countries have agreed to bring their country's forest losses to zero by the year 2020. <p>More and more individuals and nations are acknowledging the far-reaching effects of healthy forests. Trees help clean the air we breathe, provide medicines, protect and help produce water, save land from erosion, provide nutrients to the soil, protect animals and vast ecosystems, and of course, produce income. It is at this crossroads—where those who protect forest resources intersect with those industries that produce income—that disagreements and conflicts arise.</p>	<p>The pros and cons of responsible forest management is a popular debate. According to some studies, an increase in forest fires is the result of not clearing out dead undergrowth in mature-growth forests. Other research suggests that "over-clearing" the forest floor weakens tree growth because enough new nutrients from decaying trees are not being returned to the soil.</p> <p>To complicate matters further, larger animals in North American forests need clearer forest floors, while smaller animals need thicker undergrowth for their homes and for food. Furthermore, the rainforests of South America and Asia have completely different requirements for maintaining healthy ecosystems, so one simple solution to forest preservation is not the answer.</p> <p>Managing wildfires is another area of conflict. Wildfires can be destructive, but they also help forests cleanse themselves and regenerate their ecosystems. Several trees, such as the lodge pole pine, depend on heat from fire to open their seed cones. One research study found that of the 146 threatened and endangered plant species in the United States, 13 benefited from fire. In fact, allowing more wildfires might help put an end to the devastating fires we have experienced in the past few years.</p>

Based on the two passages, respond to the following question: Should forests be managed differently? Write your response in paragraphs in response to the question, including at least three pieces of relevant and specific evidence from both passages.



The screenshot shows a rich text editor interface. At the top, there is a toolbar with various icons for text formatting (bold, italic, underline, text color, background color), paragraph alignment, bulleted and numbered lists, indentation, and other editing tools. Below the toolbar is a large, empty text area for writing the response. The status bar at the bottom left shows "Path: p".

Your essay will be automatically saved to be reviewed by you or your instructor once you hit the "Next" button.

You will find your final response in the Topic Quiz Review where you can use the self assessment rubric to rate your work.

