

*Reaction or response papers are usually requested by teachers so that you'll consider carefully what you think or feel about something you've read. The following guidelines are intended to be used for reacting to a reading although they could easily be used for reactions to films too.*

### *Prewriting for Your Reaction Paper*

*The following statements could be used in a reaction/response paper. Complete as many statements as possible, from the list below, about what you just read/viewed.*

*My Reaction to What I Just Viewed Is That . . .*

*I think that*

*I see that*

*I feel that*

*It seems that*

*In my opinion,*

*Because*

*A good quote is*

*In addition,*

*For example,*

*Moreover,*

*However,*

*Consequently,*

*Finally,*

*In conclusion,*

*What you've done in completing these statements is written a very rough reaction/response paper. Now it needs to be organized. Move ahead to the next section.*

### *Organizing Your Reaction Paper*

***A reaction/response paper has an introduction, a body, and a conclusion.***

***The introduction*** should contain all the basic information in one or two paragraphs.

*Sentence 1:* This sentence should give the title, author, and publication you read.

*Sentence 2, 3, and sometimes 4:* These sentences give a brief summary of what you read (nutshell)

*Sentence 5:* This sentence is your thesis statement. You agree, disagree, identify, or evaluate.

*Your introduction should include a concise, one sentence, focused thesis. This is the focused statement of your reaction/response. More information on thesis statements is available.*

**The body** should contain paragraphs that provide support for your thesis. Each paragraph should contain one idea. Topic sentences should support the thesis, and the final sentence of each paragraph should lead into the next paragraph.

*Topic Sentence*

*detail -- example --quotation*

*Summary Sentence*

**The conclusion** can be a restatement of what you said in your paper. It can also be a comment which focuses your overall reaction. Finally, it can be a prediction of the effects of what you're reacting to. Note: your conclusion should include no new information.

THIS IS AN EXAMPLE

<p>Prewriting</p>	<p>Does the movie <i>The Day the Earth Stood Still</i> support the fact that humans are the lowest animal?</p> <p>I think that... Through the eyes of an alien we see the negative aspects of man.</p> <p>I feel that... It shows how other civilizations would want to save the earth.</p> <p>A good quote is... "Your planet?" "Yes, this is our planet." "No, it is not" The earth does not belong to mankind.</p> <p>Finally... We may have a second chance but at a high cost.</p>
<p>Introduction</p>	<p>The Day the Earth Stood Still is a movie directed by Scott Derrickson and written by David Scarpa; the movie tells the story of an alien civilization that sends a envoy to save all animal species from earth and to destroy humans who cause so much damage. However, the main character of the story, an alien called Klatu, meets Helen and her stepson who make him change his mind. At the end, humans are given a second chance to change, but at a high cost. After watching the movie, I can tell it shows that the human species is in fact the lowest animal and we haven't realized we are.</p>
<p>Paragraphs</p>	<p>The main message the movie conveys is the fact that we are destroying Earth and that actually we don't own this planet. There is a scene in the movie where the secretary of defense talks with the alien and asks him what he is doing in "our" planet, to which he replies by asking "your planet?" and then he actually tells that Earth is not our planet. In other words, we have acted as if the Earth belonged to us, but it is no so. Let's see another reason to support my thesis.</p>

	<p>A second message the movie has is the fact that we deserve the end we will have. In the first contact with the alien and his spaceship, one anonymous soldier shoots Klaatu with no reason when he was about to shake hands with Helen Benson. And even though he is taken to a hospital, he is held prisoner, no matter that he has shown no intention of hurting anyone. In fact, Klaatu demands to talk to the presidents of the world who were meeting in the United Nations not far from where he was. And now, my last reason.</p> <p>We need to be at the edge of the cliff to change. Klaatu's civilization went through a similar process of self destruction as we are going, but they changed in time and were saved. In another scene, Klaatu has the chance of speaking with a very famous scientist. The latter learns what Klaatu's intention is and tries to convince him of not destroying humankind. He asks the alien how they survived and Klaatu replies by saying that their sun was dying so they moved on. Then, the scientist tells Klaatu that his civilization shouldn't interfere because there would be moment when we would realize we have to stop destroying the environment.</p>
Conclusion	Concluding, we can restate that man is the lowest animal and the movie clearly shows to us we are so. If there were other civilizations watching us, and if they were responsible enough, probably destroying us would be the best to do.