**Example Themes for Lesson 2**

1. Robotic spacecraft: Can they do everything people-piloted spacecraft can do?

This theme focuses on three types of robotic spacecraft: probes, satellites, and rovers. It is a basic theme with five paragraphs.

2. Atticus Finch: A civilized man

This theme is a character analysis of a major character in a novel. The subtopics focus on three roles he plays in life: father, neighbor, and citizen. It is a basic five-paragraph theme and shows how to use quotations from a novel.

3. Do no harm (*Version 1*)

This theme is an analysis of the metaphor of the mockingbird used in the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird.* It shows how the metaphor is used across the novel to deliver one of the main messages of the novel.This version of the theme has five paragraphs.

4. Do no Harm (*Version 2*)

This theme is an analysis of the metaphor of the mockingbird used in the novel *To Kill a Mockingbird.* It shows how the metaphor is used across the novel to deliver one of the main messages of the novel.This version of the theme has six paragraphs and, if shown in tandem with *Version 1* of the same theme, shows how a smaller theme can be expanded.

5. Drones: What defines them?

This theme focuses on the definition of drones, their characteristics, and their purposes, as well as some examples of drones. It shows how a theme can be written based on a Concept Diagram (Bulgren, 1993). It has six paragraphs, including four Detail Paragraphs.

6. Can a building be a work of art?

This theme describes the Guggenheim Museum in New York City. It covers its location, interior design, and external design. It illustrates how two Detail Paragraphs might be used for one subtopic (interior design). It has six paragraphs in all.

7. An awakening

This theme describes the evolution of Leisel’s understanding of the plight of the Jews in *The Book Thief*. It illustrates how five subtopics can be included in a theme; thus, it has five Detail Paragraphs and seven paragraphs in all.

8. To quit or not to quit?

This theme describes two moral issues that are central to the novel *Primary Colors* and how three of the characters in the novel deal with these issues. This theme illustrates how more than one Detail Paragraph can be used for each subtopic (i.e., each main character in the novel). There are six Detail Paragraphs and eight paragraphs in all.

9. Migration across “The Pond”

This theme covers the major factors that led to the migration of Europeans across the Atlantic Ocean to America. Each group of factors serves as a subtopic and is covered in a Detail Paragraph. It is a basic five-paragraph theme.