

University of Wisconsin at Manitowoc
ENG101
Spring 2012
Deets

Example Body Paragraph Outline

Body Paragraph 4: Analyze the wedding at which all groomsmen were texting at the head table.

Remember to answer the question “What choices/priorities/values does this evidence demonstrate?” in the analysis portion of your paragraph.

In June of 2011, I was twenty-five years old and a good friend of mine was getting married in San Francisco. I had not seen John in over a year, so I was especially honored to be asked to be a groomsman in the wedding. I also knew that many of my good college friends, whom I had not seen in years, would likely be at the wedding, so I was really looking forward to it. I had just purchased a new Droid and I was very excited to make use of it. At one point during the reception, I was texting my girlfriend in Wisconsin when I looked up for an instant and saw that all of the groomsmen were texting, emailing, or checking sports scores on their phones. I saw that the groom was talking with his new bride very animatedly, and that all of the bridesmaids were talking and laughing as well, and drinking wine. Though my friend John did not say anything, I noticed that he turned several times to talk to his best man, but the best man still did not put away his phone. I was ashamed of the contrast between the two sides of the head table, since the bridesmaids were reconnecting and enjoying the moment and the beautiful atmosphere of the ballroom. Having read Turkle’s comments on the “de-personalizing of group social events,” I recognize that the groomsmen were choosing sports scores, and texting people at a distance, over fully experiencing this rite of passage. My friend John, God willing, will only

marry once, and the groomsmen were missing the chance to reconnect in person with the people we had not seen in years. We should have valued the opportunity to revisit our shared history.