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approaches abound to help us beneficially enjoyably read fiction poetry and drama here for the first time is a book that aims to do the same for the

essay g douglas atkins performs sustained readings of more than twenty five major essays explaining how we can appreciate and understand what this currently resurgent literary form reveals about the art of living atkins s readings cover a wide spectrum of writers in the english language and his readings are themselves essays gracefully written engaged and engaging atkins starts with the earliest british practitioners of the form including francis bacon john dryden alexander pope and samuel johnson transcendentalist writers henry david thoreau and ralph waldo emerson are included as are works by americans james baldwin zora neale hurston and e b white atkins also provides readings of a number of contemporary essayists among them annie dillard scott russell sanders and cynthia ozick many of the readings are of essays that atkins has used successfully in the classroom with undergraduate and graduate students for many years in his introduction atkins offers practical advice on the specific demands essays make and the unique opportunities they offer especially for college courses the book ends with a note on the writing of essays furthering the author s contention that reading should not be separated from writing reading essays continues in the tradition of such definitive texts as understanding poetry and understanding fiction throughout atkins reveals the joy delight grace freedom and wisdom of the glorious essay

love it or hate it the five paragraph essay is perhaps the most frequently taught form of writing in classrooms of yesterday and today but have you ever actually seen five paragraph essays outside of school walls have you ever found it in business writing journalism nonfiction or any other genres that exist in the real world kimberly hill campbell and kristi latimer reviewed the research on the effectiveness of the form as a teaching tool and discovered that the research does not support the five paragraph formula in fact research shows that the formula restricts creativity emphasizes structure rather than content does not improve standardized test scores inadequately prepares students for college writing and results in vapid writing in beyond the five paragraph essay kimberly and kristi show you how to reclaim the literary essay and create a program that encourages thoughtful writing in response to literature they provide numerous strategies that stimulate student thinking value unique insight and encourage lively personal writing including the following close reading which is the basis for writing about literature low stakes writing options that support students thinking as they read collaboration in support of discussion debate and organizational structures that support writing as exploration a focus on students writing process as foundational to content development and structure the use of model texts to write in the form of the literature students are reading and analyzingthe goal of reading and writing about literature is to push and challenge our students thinking we want students to know that their writing can convey something important a unique view to share defend prove delight discover and inspire if we want our students

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to be more engaged skilled writers we need to move beyond the five paragraph essay

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published in 1984 this volume presents methodologies for studying the ongoing psychological processes that occur as a person reads a text as well as discussing the major findings that these methodologies have produced to provide a handbook of reading comprehension research techniques focusing on the comprehension processes that occur when a person is reading rather than the representation that remains after the text has been read the methodologies use measures such as reading times that reflect ongoing processes rather than relying exclusively on conventional measures of memory performance such as recall these methods make use of computer technology for rapid and flexible stimulus representation and data acquisition this book will allow researchers and students to select appropriate methodologies to investigate a range of fascinating questions about reading comprehension

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