**Commentary Structure – Guide**

1. Introduce **Text** and **Author**
2. Discuss **Context** of the given passage – be very succinct

i.e. situate this passage within the context of the whole story perhaps with particular attention to what happens before and/or after it

1. Summarize **the story of/what happens** in the passage – again, be very succinct
2. State your two (or three!) part **Commentary Thesis**. Answer the guiding questions – establish what you will be saying
3. P.I.E. - **Points, Illustrations and Explanation(s) for 1st topic** (answer to Guiding Question #1)
4. Transition to P.I.E. – **Points, Illustrations and Explanation(s) for 2nd topic** (answer to Guiding Question #2)
5. Transition to P.I.E. – **Points, Illustrations and Explanation(s) for 3rd topic** (rarely done, but students could take own direction here. Also we will use 3 Guiding Questions for the *Never Let Me Go* group presentations)
6. Wrap-up with an effective and thoughtful **Conclusion**

**Time Guideline for an Oral Commentary**

1. Intro to Text and Author 5 seconds
2. Context 30 seconds to 1 minute
3. Summary 1 minute
4. Thesis 5 seconds
5. Topic #1 – GQ#1 4.5 minutes
6. Topic #2 – GQ#2 4.5 minutes
7. Conclusion 1 minute

**= 12 minutes approximately**