

MTE Reading & Writing
 Writing Assignment: Extended Definition Paragraph
 First Draft

TASK

Choose one concept. Then, write one academic paragraph that analyzes the concept and states its importance for Christian theology. The concepts are the following:

- Communion with God
- Hermeneutics
- Holiness
- Marriage
- The Messiah
- The New Covenant
- The Omnipotence of God
- Revelation
- Sanctification
- Sovereignty
- Wisdom

The paragraph should contain a topic sentence, supporting sentences that are focused on the topic, and a concluding sentence.

You should take no more than one hour to write this paragraph.

DUE DATE AND TIME

The first draft is due Tuesday, September 15, at 8:30 a.m.

Please write your paragraph in a word document and upload it to Canvas.

GRADING

The first draft is graded according to the rubric that will be used for the final draft, but the grade for this draft will not count toward your final draft grade. Only the final draft of this task will be counted.

<p>CONTENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focuses on <u>one</u> concept • Demonstrates understanding of the concept by addressing <u>at least 5</u> of the categories (questions) in the list from page 26 of <i>Q</i> 	_ /12 pts.
<p>ORGANIZATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contains an appropriate topic sentence • Contains supporting sentences that are on topic • Contains an appropriate concluding sentence 	_ / 12 pts.
<p>GRAMMAR AND SYNTAX</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses grammar and syntax that does not compromise understanding • Uses appropriate transition words and phrases (e.g., contrast/concession connectors) 	_ /8 pts.
<p>CONVENTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uses appropriate academic vocabulary • Uses correct collocations for all vocabulary • Uses correct spelling • Uses correct punctuation 	_ /8 pts.

ASSIGNMENT HEADER

The standard header for short writing assignments at WTS is the following:

First-Name Lastname
Class Name
Professor's Name
Date

Title of Assignment

This should be at the top of your typed document. For MTE I, you do not need to put a mailbox number.

A NOTE ABOUT RESEARCH AND PLAGIARISM

For this assignment, you may use your background knowledge. You do not need to do additional research. But if you do use another resource (e.g., *The Baker Compact Dictionary of Theological Terms*), you must cite it in a footnote. If you use Bible references, you must cite them in parenthesis at the end of the quote or paraphrase.

You may not take sentences or ideas from other resources without citing them.

ASSISTANCE

- Use the questions on page 26 of *Q: Skills for Success* 5 to help you generate ideas for your topic sentence, supporting sentences, and concluding sentence.
- Use the example paragraph on page 27 of *Q*.
- Use the following examples.

Example 1

Consecration means to set something apart as holy. It refers to the outer appearance. It does not have the same meaning as *sanctification*. It does not mean pure. In the Old Testament, priests would consecrate bread for worship. Other examples include the meat that was sacrificed and objects used in worship. Consecration is important because it indicates that an item is not for common, everyday use.

Example 2¹

The parables are stories, but they are also much more. They are not merely tales about the growth of a mustard seed, a catch of fish, a widow who won't take no for an answer. They are intended to convey a lesson. If they were not, they would really have no point at all. The parables have two levels of meaning: the story itself, which is the literal meaning; and the point or lesson, popularly called the figurative meaning. The point or lesson is conveyed indirectly, often only implicitly. For example, the Mustard Seed (Mk 4:30-32, Mt 13:31-32; Lk 13:18-19) teaches a lesson about the reign of God, its small, humble beginnings in the ministry of Jesus, and its final, full splendor at the end-time. Again, the story we are told is the literal meaning; its point or lesson is the figurative meaning. Thus every parable has two levels of meaning.

1. Adapted from Madeleine Boucher, *The Parables* (Wilmington, DE: Michael Glazier, 1981), 15-16.