

Fire ant essay

Literature



**ASSIGN
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“Decapitating” means depriving a person or animal of its head.

Barry does not formally define the term in the essay, but he presents a rather detailed description of the decapitating process performed by the larva of the insect called the decapitating phorid fly. Here is how he describes the actions of this horrible creature: This is an amazing fly that kills fire ants via a method that, if insects wrote horror novels, would have been dreamed up by the fire-ant Stephen King. What happens is, the female phorid fly swoops in on a fire ant and, in less than a tenth of a second, injects an egg into the ant’s midsection. When the egg hatches, the maggot crawls up inside the ant, and here is the good part-eats the entire contents of the ant’s head. In addition to the definition and process analysis, there are a number of methods of development at the writer’s disposal. One of them is narration in which the author actually tells a story.

Another possible method is illustration that “means that a generalization is supported by specific instances” (LeJeune, 2006). The author can also use comparison in which similar and differing characteristics of the same object are identified and compared. Classification involves sorting out items into categories with similar characteristics so that they can be distinguished from the same items with different criteria. Then, there is also causal analysis that involves a search for different reasons and attempts to connect these reasons to the consequence. Argumentation is used when the author supplies “enough reasons and proof to convince the reader that a certain opinion is valid” (LeJeune, 2006). These methods of development complement process analysis and definition in helping writers to create meaningful and impressive paragraphs and weave them into a story.

Bibliography LeJeune, E. (2006). Patterns of Development. Retrieved March 25, 2007, from <http://www2.selu.edu/Academics/Faculty/elejeune/methods.htm>