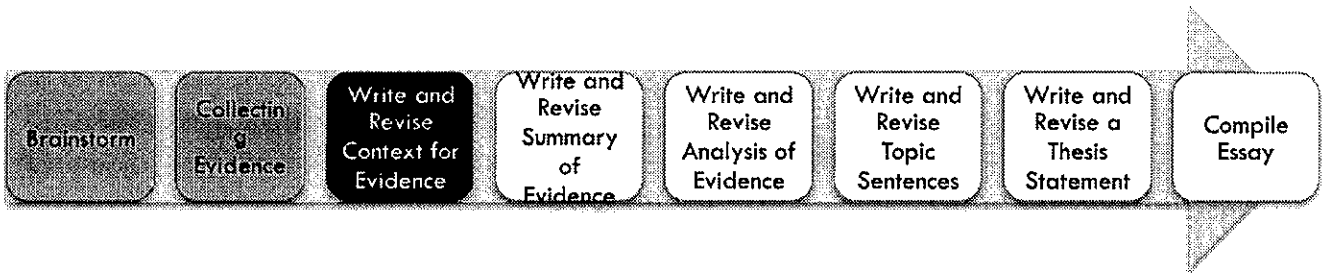

Writing Context for Your Evidence

Background: You have now collected pieces of evidence that you could use to defend the ideas you want to convey in your essay. Your next step is to write clear context for each piece of evidence.

Task: For each piece of evidence, you must set the stage for the reader to introduce the quote. Use the spaces below to draft out clear context. **On the right,** write down the evidence you chose for each part of the essay prompt. **On the left,** draft out the context you would like to use to introduce the quote. ***Use all the extra space to rewrite ideas when you need to.***

Purpose: Clear context help the reader understand what's happening in the story before the evidence is introduced.

Sentence Starters:

In _____, _____ discusses _____.

title **speaker or author** **(clarify any vague pronouns in quote)**

_____ *states,* " INSERT QUOTE." (author last name, pg#)

Speaker or author last name (depends who said quote)

Example:

Prompt: How do Junior and Sherman Alexie view reservation life in the book *The Absolute True Diary of a Part-Time Indian*? (**THIS IS JUST AN EXAMPLE OF HOW TO COMPLETE THE CHART! THIS IS NOT YOUR PROMPT! DO NOT WRITE FIND EVIDENCE OR WRITE A PAPER ON PART-TIME INDIAN)**

Left Side -Context for textual evidence	Right Side -Textual evidence (cited properly)
In *The Absolute True Diary of a Part-Time Indian,* Sherman Alexie discusses the hardships Junior had to face living on the reservation.	Junior states, "We only know how to lose and be lost" (Alexie, 32).