The PRES Method

The purpose of the PRES method is to help you respond to your teacher's question and to provide new information to keep the discussion going.

The four parts of the PRES method are:

**Point**  
The idea you are sharing

**Reason**  
A full explanation of your point. Make sure that you include enough information that your reader will understand your point.

**Example**  
A specific example or examples to support your point. You can also include facts from outside sources or other information. After reading your explanation, your reader should understand why you think your point is correct.

**Summary**  
Repeat or restate your point. This helps to remind your reader of the argument you are making. In some shorter assignments – such as discussion posts-- you may not include a summary.

Let's look at an example of the PRES method. Here, the student is responding to a question from the teacher about Pablo Picasso:

**Point**  
"I think that Guernica is Picasso’s most influential Cubist work. Many other artists reflected on Picasso's work and continued the social commentary in their own work. For example, look at how Picasso draws the bull’s head and horse’s leg together. The lines cross and blend suggesting the horrors of war on all parts of man's life. Now compare this with Jackson Pollock’s Water Bull in which man and animal, blood reds and cool greens interact, reminding the viewer of the cultural tension of the time. In interviews later in his life, Pollock frequently talked about Guernica as an important work for him. So, as you can see, Picasso's Guernica affected not only audiences at the time, but generations of artists."

**Reason**  
"Many other artists reflected on Picasso's work and continued the social commentary in their own work."

**Example**  
"For example, look at how Picasso draws the bull’s head and horse’s leg together. The lines cross and blend suggesting the horrors of war on all parts of man's life. Now compare this with Jackson Pollock’s Water Bull in which man and animal, blood reds and cool greens interact, reminding the viewer of the cultural tension of the time. In interviews later in his life, Pollock frequently talked about Guernica as an important work for him. So, as you can see, Picasso's Guernica affected not only audiences at the time, but generations of artists."