**Expository Essay Example**

Introduction

Sometimes fear leads people to act in negative ways. **Fear of the unknown can lead to suspicion and destructive behavior**.

Paragraph 2

To begin, fear makes people become suspicious of each other. This can be seen in “The Monsters are Due on Maple Street” when the neighbors start to question Les Goodman after his car starts automatically. For example, “Why did his car up and start like that?” (pg. 421). This shows that the neighbors questioned each other during the event, even though they knew and trusted each other. This means they must have been fearful because people do not normally become suspicious of others they know unless given a good reason.

Paragraph 3

Likewise, fear turns people into dangerous weapons. This can be seen when an innocent man dies in “The Monsters are Due on Maple Street”. Charlie panics and shoots Pete Van Horn. This shows that Charlie accidentally shot Pete Van Horn because he mistook him for a monster. Charlie must have been extremely scared in order to confuse a man with a monster, because during times of fear, people don’t think as clearly and make mistakes.

Conclusion

The characters in “Monsters are Due on Maple Street” react in several ways to show how the fear of unexplainable events can lead to destruction and suspicion. The neighbors feel that they have to question each other out of fear. A quick, unthinking reaction leads to the death of one innocent man. Finally, the alien enemy triumphs. In conclusion, the reader learns that these reactions to fear are a natural human instinct that should be fought in order to preserve survival.