Brad Philpot - Extended Essay marker advice RPPFs (Reflections on Progress and Planning Forms)

I'm marking EEs at the moment and I've noticed that students are not easily scoring 6/6 for their RPPFs (Reflections on Progress and Planning Forms). Whereas, with a little guidance, I think they should be able to.

For those not familiar with the supervision process or the new forms, it comes down to this: examiners are marking students on their ability to reflect. There are essentially two things we're looking for: 1) an ability to make decisions in response to challenges, and 2) personal engagement.

The problems I see look like this:

- "I wanted to read and compare 2 novels, but then I decided to write about 1." (Why change your mind? What was the reason?)
- "I have decided to write my EE about X." (Why? What's the personal connection?)
- "The way the world works is like X." (No need for sweeping generalisations. Get to the point about your interest in it.)
- "My supervisor told me to do X, so I did it." (Where is the initiative? Why was it a good point?)

So what kinds of phrases am I looking for on RPPFs?

- "X made me do Y."
- "I have always been fascinated by / wondered why / wanted to know X"
- "After doing X, I discovered Y."
- "X led to my research question: Y" (YES, write out the RQ on the RPPF too!)

This is just an initial reflection on the RPPFs. We all knew there would be kinks to work out, so hopefully a little dialogue on this can clear up some confusion.