Senior Argumentative essay

W.11-12.1: Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts, using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence.

**Objective:** Students will be able to write an argumentative essay that supports their viewpoints with valid reasoning while maintaining an academic/professional tone.

**Task:** You are charged with writing an argumentative essay **supporting** or **refuting** the idea that "**Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Great men are almost always bad men**.” Your essay needs to either **agree or disagree** with the author’s claim. You must include an MLA citation page with at least **four** **outside sources** for your essay. You must also use the following two literary texts, ***Macbeth* and *Jekyll and Hyde*** in your paper (**that means there should be no fewer than 6 resources on your MLA citation page.)**

Items needed for paper:

* Your essay should be a **minimum** of three typed pages, 12 pt. font, Times New Roman, 1’margins, no headings or titles on the essay pages.
* You need a beginning, a middle and an end – an introductory paragraph (with a hook and a thesis), body paragraphs (that elaborate on that thesis), and a conclusion (see Rubric Below)
* There is **NO FIRST OR SECOND PERSON ALLOWED IN THIS PAPER. Be sure to avoid phrases like *I think /I feel/ I believe***
* Things to be aware of when writing this essay:
* Make sure you follow all directions listed.
* Make sure the essay is in MLA format with only the following on the first page of your paper:
  + Your Name
  + Teacher Name
  + Class
  + Date ( day, month, year)
  + Make sure your last name is in the **header only with a page number** ; make sure paginate your page numbers ( make sure they change as you change pages).
  + Make sure the essay is double spaced with 1inch margins per MLA format.
  + Do NOT use the following words in your essay:

**Just, so, like ,really, a lot, started, get/got, very or any variation there of**

**Any and all slang**

Rubric:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| STANDARD/CRITERIA | POINTS POSSIBLE | POINTS EARNED | COMMENTS |
| Included an introductory paragraph with clear hook and thesis included. | 15 |  |  |
| Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence | 50 |  |  |
| Develop claim(s) fairly and thoroughly supplying the most relevant evidence from literary, primary and secondary resources to support writer's analysis, reflection and research. | 50 |  |  |
| Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone. | 30 |  |  |
| Use appropriate and varied transitions and word choice to create cohesion among the ideas and concepts presented in paper | 10 |  |  |
| Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented | 15 |  |  |
| GPS – grammar, punctuation, and spelling are reflective of a high school senior = minimal errors! Remember to remove the NO-No words!!! Double check!! | 15 |  |  |
| Paper is written in correct MLA style. | 15 |  |  |
|  | Total | /200 |  |

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| STANDARD/CRITERIA | POINTS POSSIBLE | POINTS EARNED | COMMENTS |
| Included an introductory paragraph with clear hook and thesis included. | 15 |  |  |
| Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics or texts using valid reasoning and relevant and sufficient evidence | 50 |  |  |
| Develop claim(s) fairly and thoroughly supplying the most relevant evidence from literary, primary and secondary resources to support writer's analysis, reflection and research. | 50 |  |  |
| Establish and maintain a formal style and objective tone. | 30 |  |  |
| Use appropriate and varied transitions and word choice to create cohesion among the ideas and concepts presented in paper | 10 |  |  |
| Provide a concluding statement or section that follows from and supports the information or explanation presented | 15 |  |  |
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