

ENGL 1301 Group Persuasive Essay and Research Project

Groups

Three or four students in each group

Topic

Assigned by instructor

Paper

- Five to six paragraphs, depending on development
 - Introduction (written by the group)
 - One body paragraph per student in group
 - **Each body paragraph must contain support for the stance AND some rebuttal (counterargument)**
 - Conclusion (written by the group)
- Each student must find and use at least one NEWS source in his or her body paragraph (examples: cnn.com, TIME.com, msnbc.com). **ONLY NEWS SOURCES WILL BE ALLOWED FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT!**
- **Informal** Works Cited page will simply list the websites used
- Paper must be written in **THIRD PERSON**
- Paper should be organized using format given in class

Presentation

- Power Point with five to six slides – one for introduction, one for each body paragraph, and one for conclusion
- Each person presents his or her argument from the essay
- May use outline but cannot read from essay
- Group decides who opens and closes the presentation

Writing the Paper

- *Planning*
 - Brainstorm as a group, form a claim (working thesis statement), conduct research, develop an outline
- *Drafting*
 - Work on introduction as a group, work on arguments/body paragraph individually, work on conclusion as a group, create Works Cited page
- *Editing*
 - Edit within the group for content, organization, development, grammar, mechanics
 -
 -

Creating the Power Point

- Using the outline and essay, highlight the main ideas of the essay in the slides. (Presentation should be a total of 5-7 minutes. If, after 8 minutes, presentation is not complete, the group will be asked to stop where it is.)

Grading

This assignment is worth a total of 250 points

Group Points (200)

- **Essay (140 points)**
 - Introduction
 - Conclusion
 - Effectiveness of body paragraphs in supporting thesis
 - Rebuttal
 - Unity/cohesiveness of paper as a whole
 - Works Cited page
 - Parenthetical citations
 - Grammar, mechanics
- **Presentation (40 points)**
 - Use of Power Point Slides
 - Argument Organized
- **Peer Evaluation of work and participation (20 points)**

Individual Points (50 Points):

- **Essay (Content)**
 - Effectiveness of body paragraphs in supporting thesis
 - Rebuttal
 - Unity/cohesiveness of paper as a whole
 - Works Cited page
 - Parenthetical citations
 - Grammar, mechanics
- **Essay (Grammar and Mechanics)**
 - Based on correct usage, students will earn an overall grade ranging from:
 - A (50-41points)
 - B (40-31 points)
 - C (30-21 points)
 - D (20-19 points)
 - F (19-10 points)

Students will also earn a daily work grade for each day they are present and working on the assignment. *If you are absent, this grade cannot be made up.*

Students who are absent two or more times during this assignment will not be allowed to participate in the group project and must write a complete paper and prepare a Power Point presentation on their own.

Papers will be handed in on the due date BEFORE the Power Point presentation. No late Power Point presentations will be permitted.