

## Conflict Assumptions Paper

**Purpose:** The purpose of this paper is to identify popular cultural examples of conflict assumptions and to describe how conflict assumptions influence the ways in which people approach and engage in conflict.

### General Instructions:

For the paper, you will locate examples of conflict assumptions in popular culture. In class, we discussed 8 negative assumptions and 5 functional assumptions. For your paper, you will select and write about 2 negative assumptions and 2 functional assumptions.

In order to identify sources from which we learn conflict assumptions, you should search current popular magazines, newspaper articles, music, movies, and television programs for messages on conflict. As you are looking through these materials, you should search for examples of the negative and functional assumptions you have chosen to focus on in your paper.

As key part of this paper is demonstrating your understanding of the assumptions and connecting the assumptions to specific examples, you should clearly define concepts.

Your essay should be typed, double-spaced 12-point font and you should use one-inch margins. It should be approximately 5-7 pages in length.

### Paper Components:

- I. Introduction  
Provide an introductory paragraph that establishes the focus and goals of the paper. Be sure to provide a clear preview statement.
- II. Body
  - A. General discussion of conflict assumptions and why they are important. How do assumptions influence conflict and conflict management?
  - B. Negative assumptions
    1. General discussion of negative assumptions. What is meant by negative assumptions? How do negative assumptions influence conflict management? What two negative assumptions will you focus on in this section of your paper?
    2. Negative assumption 1
      - a. Name and describe this assumptions
      - b. Provide three distinct examples of where you found evidence of this assumption in popular culture
        - Be sure to identify and properly cite the sources for each example
        - Describe each example and how each example is evidence of the assumption you have chosen to focus on. Be sure to give enough

details for each example so that reader understands the example and how it illustrates the assumption.

- c. How does this negative assumption affect conflict management?
3. Negative assumption 2
  - a. Name and describe this assumptions
  - b. Provide three distinct examples of where you found evidence of this assumption in popular culture
    - Be sure to identify and properly cite the sources for each example
    - Describe each example and how each example is evidence of the assumption you have chosen to focus on. Be sure to give enough details for each example so that reader understands the example and how it illustrates the assumption.
  - c. How does this negative assumption affect conflict management?
- C. Functional assumptions
  1. General discussion of functional assumptions. What is meant by functional assumptions? How do functional assumptions influence conflict management? What two functional assumptions will you focus on in this section of your paper?
  2. Functional assumption 1
    - a. Name and describe this assumptions
    - b. Provide three distinct examples of where you found evidence of this assumption in popular culture
      - Be sure to identify and properly cite the sources for each example
      - Describe each example and how each example is evidence of the assumption you have chosen to focus on. Be sure to give enough details for each example so that reader understands the example and how it illustrates the assumption.
    - c. How does this functional assumption affect conflict management?
  3. Functional assumption 2
    - a. Name and describe this assumptions
    - b. Provide three distinct examples of where you found evidence of this assumption in popular culture
      - Be sure to identify and properly cite the sources for each example
      - Describe each example and how each example is evidence of the assumption you have chosen to focus on. Be sure to give enough details for each example so that reader understands the example and how it illustrates the assumption.
    - c. How does this functional assumption affect conflict management?
- III. Conclusion

Provide a concluding paragraph that summarizes what you have done in the paper and gives closure to the paper.

**Documentation:**

You should clearly cite your sources in your paper using APA. You must provide citations for all information taken from the popular culture sources and information, definitions and ideas taken from the text. In addition, you should provide a bibliography at the end of your paper. **Per the course policy on academic dishonesty, failure to quote and/or paraphrase sources appropriately could result in a failing grade on this assignment. At minimum, improper citation will result in a point penalty on this assignment.**

**Collaboration:**

You may write this paper as a group (groups may consist of 2-4 people). If you choose to work with a group, select your group members carefully as all group members will earn the same grade on this assignment.

If you suspect a group member has engaged in academic misconduct while working on the group project, you should report those suspicions to the course instructor prior to turning in the group project. If you report suspicions of academic dishonesty prior to turning the project in, then your grade will not be penalized. If a project is turned in and no suspicions have been reported, then all group members will receive the same grade and the same penalty for the academic dishonesty.

This paper should represent your own or your group's work. While you may talk with classmates and friends about this assignment and ask their opinions on ideas, you need to ensure that the paper you give to me represents your own or your group's independent work on this paper.

**Due Date: February 13<sup>th</sup> at the beginning of class**

**What do you need to hand in?**

1. Everyone should upload their papers SafeAssign. If writing in a group, only one group member needs to upload the paper.
2. A hard copy of the paper is due at the beginning of class on February 13<sup>th</sup>. If writing in a group, the group only needs to hand in one copy of the paper. Before submitting either copy of the paper be sure that the paper is in the final version that you would like to have graded. Also be sure that the paper that is uploaded is the same version of the paper as the hard copy of the paper that is handed in.