

Essay 2: The Research Paper

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Due Feb 7 by 11:59pm **Points** 300 **Submitting** a file upload **File Types** pages, doc, and pdf
Attempts 0 **Allowed Attempts** 1 **Available** Jan 4 at 12am - Feb 7 at 11:59pm about 1 month

This assignment fulfills the following Student Learning Outcomes:

arguing and supporting a point using evidence from outside sources;

supporting a thesis by integrating sources using analysis and synthesis;

using in-text citations in MLA format and a Works Cited page.

ESSAY ASSIGNMENT

Research one of the following famous persuasive moments and describe the circumstances — the historical situation, the issues at stake, the purpose of the argument — that make it so memorable.

- 1. Abraham Lincoln's Gettysburg Address (1863)**
- 2. Elizabeth Cady Stanton's "Declaration of Sentiments" at the Seneca Falls Convention (1848)**
- 3. Chief Tecumseh's address to General William Henry Harrison (1810)**
- 4. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Letter from Birmingham Jail" (1963)**
- 5. Cesar Chavez's Commonwealth Club Address (1984)**
- 6. Malala Yousafzi's speech to the United Nations (2013)**
- 7. President Obama's eulogy in memory of the worshippers killed at the Emmanuel AME Church in Charleston (2015)**

Once you have chosen the speech to analyze, break down your analysis into three parts:

- The historical context: What was the historical occasion or historical situation surrounding the speech?
- The issues at stake: What were the key issues the speaker trying to confront?
- The purpose of the argument: This is the rhetorical analysis part of your paper. What was the writer/speaker's purpose? How does the writer/speaker use rhetorical strategies and appeals to achieve that purpose?

SOURCE REQUIREMENT

At least two sources and you must include at least one paraphrase or summary or direct quotation from the speech or writing you are analyzing.

ESSAY ORGANIZATION

Write an introduction that includes a thesis that establishes the main idea and provides a focus for this essay. Remember, your thesis needs to contain an opinion about the effectiveness of the speech/essay.

The thesis sentence should establish your point in the whole essay.

In the body paragraphs of your essay, develop details and specifics of your point in the paragraphs that follow.

Provide the historical context of the speech/essay and the stakes involved. Then write a rhetorical analysis of the speech/text.

QUESTIONS TO THINK ABOUT BEFORE WRITING:

What do you think was the speaker's/author's purpose?

Who was the intended audience and how does that audience affect the writing?

What style and tone does the speaker/author use? Why?

What rhetorical appeals does the speaker/writer use? Ethos? Pathos? Logos? All three?

How is the speech/text organized? Why do you think the writer chose that pattern?

What kinds of evidence does the speaker/author include to support the point of view, and how was that evidence used?

In the conclusion to your essay, summarize the main points of your analysis to explain its significance and to draw to a clear and specific conclusion.

What conclusions can you draw about the role in general of rhetorical appeals and strategies in producing clear and effective communication through writing?

Was the author successful in using rhetorical appeals for the intended audience and purpose?

Final Draft Due: 2/7

Page length: 4-6 pages

FORMAT

- Typed in 12 point Times New Roman or Courier New font
- Double-spaced; no extra spacing after paragraphs
- 1 inch margins (no bigger)

- Heading in upper left corner with your name, my name, our course, and the day (day month year format)
- A Works Cited page listing the sources you've cited in your essay

Essay 2: 300pts

Criteria	Ratings						Pts
Thesis A finely crafted thesis statement projects the argumentative thrust of the essay, establishing overarching idea and previewing main points.	10 pts Exceeds College Expectations Thesis both concise and specific, signaling clearly to reader the direction of essay and provides	8 pts Meets College Expectations Thesis could be more concise/Thesis could provide more backing (reasons why).	6 pts Nearly Meets Expectations Has a vague thesis, but in the right place.	4 pts Misses Expectations Thesis restated in conclusion is stronger/Thesis not in the expected location.	2 pts Needs Intervention Essay has a main idea, but no formal thesis.	0 pts Insufficient Essay is of insufficient length or quality to properly assess, is off topic, or contains strong evidence of heavy plagiarism.	10 pts
Focus Thesis is realized by essay organization and fully developed ideas, responding to all aspects of the prompt.	10 pts Exceeds College Expectations Essay fully develops the thesis, responding to all sections of the prompt, leaving the	8 pts Meets College Expectations Essay stays with thesis, but the total effect of the essay does not satisfy, likely because some minor aspects of the prompt were	6 pts Nearly Meets Expectations Essay strays slightly from thesis at minor points/Essay misses a few key aspects of the prompt.	4 pts Misses Expectations Not all points seem to go together. Essay ignores several aspects of the prompt.	2 pts Needs Intervention Essay stray several times from the main topic. Essay does not address core aspects	0 pts Insufficient Essay is of insufficient length or quality to properly assess, is off topic, or contains strong	10 pts
Arrangement Essay is organized in an effective way that adds to the impact of the argument.	10 pts Exceeds College Expectations Logical and effective arrangement that flows organically, building to a	8 pts Meets College Expectations Does not flow smoothly. Does not build to a peak, but flattens	6 pts Nearly Meets Expectations Paragraphs are lengthy, possibly too many ideas in one. Paragraphs are overly	4 pts Misses Expectations Problems with logical flow and build up. Consider adding transitions. Problems with	2 pts Needs Intervention No creativity or thought apparent in arrangement. Possibly following order of	0 pts Insufficient Essay is of insufficient length or quality to properly assess, is off topic, or contains	10 pts
Ideas Ideas are presented logically and effectively, fully developed and connected to the thesis, fully aware of the audience's needs.	10 pts Exceeds College Expectations Ideas are soundly logical and presented with a keen awareness of the rhetorical situation.	8 pts Meets College Expectations A few points are underdeveloped or contain illogical ideas. Some points may not be ideal for the audience.	6 pts Nearly Meets Expectations Many points are underdeveloped or contain illogical ideas. Many points may not be ideal for the audience.	4 pts Misses Expectations Essay does not have many logically developed points. Points may not support essay in a way that the audience would find persuasive.	2 pts Needs Intervention Ideas are incredibly vague and not convincing.	0 pts Insufficient Essay is of insufficient length or quality to properly assess, is off topic, or contains strong evidence of heavy plagiarism.	10 pts

Criteria	Ratings						Pts
Evidence Authoritative sources meet the standards of the audience, increasing the credibility of the essay.	10 pts Exceeds College Expectations Plenty of highly effective evidence is presented to increase the credibility of the writer with regard to the audience.	8 pts Meets College Expectations The credibility of some evidence is suspect. Some evidence does not effectively support the argument, or isn't plentiful enough.	6 pts Nearly Meets Expectations The credibility of some evidence is suspect (given the needs of audience) while also not effective or plentiful enough.	4 pts Misses Expectations The credibility of much evidence is suspect. Much evidence does not effectively support the argument or isn't plentiful enough.	2 pts Needs Intervention The credibility of much evidence is suspect (given the needs of audience) while also not effective.	0 pts Insufficient Essay is of insufficient length or quality to properly assess, is off topic, or contains strong evidence of plagiarism.	10 pts
Clarity (of Ideas) Ideas are fully fleshed out, providing enough context for the target audience.	10 pts Exceeds College Expectations Ideas are fully explained, with assumptions made about the knowledge appropriate to the given audience.	8 pts Meets College Expectations Some points are not fleshed-out. Certain assumptions are made in an inappropriate way.	6 pts Nearly Meets Expectations Some points are not fleshed-out while certain assumptions are made in an inappropriate way.	4 pts Misses Expectations Many points are not fleshed-out. Many assumptions are made in an inappropriate way.	2 pts Needs Intervention Many points are not fleshed-out while certain assumptions are made in an inappropriate way.	0 pts Insufficient Essay is of insufficient length or quality to properly assess, is off topic, or contains strong evidence of plagiarism.	10 pts
(Integration of) Citations Cited material is integrated following conventions of MLA style, using an appropriate method such as C-A-C-E	10 pts Exceeds College Expectations The appropriate context is provided (given the audience) for each source, cleanly attributing each idea to its speaker and citing the cited source.	8 pts Meets College Expectations At least one type of error consistently appears as a pattern.	6 pts Nearly Meets Expectations At least two types of errors consistently appear as a pattern.	4 pts Misses Expectations At least three types of errors consistently appear as a pattern.	2 pts Needs Intervention Citations are almost totally erroneously integrated, if they appear at all.	0 pts Insufficient Essay is of insufficient length or quality to properly assess, is off topic, or contains strong evidence of plagiarism.	10 pts
Style The appropriate tone is chosen to increase credibility of the writer as well as making appropriate emotive choices.	10 pts Exceeds College Expectations The essay adopts the appropriate tone given the genre and audience. Word choice works to increase credibility and appropriate pathos.	8 pts Meets College Expectations A few words are misused. Some Informal speech is included. The informal "you" pronoun is occasionally employed.	6 pts Nearly Meets Expectations Many words are misused. Much Informal speech is included. The informal "you" is regularly employed.	4 pts Misses Expectations Most words are misused. Informal speech preoccupies the essay. The essay uses "I" pronoun excessively or inappropriately.	2 pts Needs Intervention Most words are misused and informal speech preoccupies the essay.	0 pts Insufficient Essay is of insufficient length or quality to properly assess, is off topic, or contains strong evidence of plagiarism.	10 pts

Criteria	Ratings						Pts
Clarity (of Sentences) Concise, effective sentences aid in reader's comprehension.	10 pts Exceeds College Expectations The writing is clear, concise and free from any error which would make it difficult to read. Sentences flow smoothly,	8 pts Meets College Expectations A few sentences are difficult to read thanks to awkward structure or	6 pts Nearly Meets Expectations Many sentences are difficult to read thanks to awkward structure or other errors.	4 pts Misses Expectations Most sentences are difficult to read thanks to awkward structure or other errors.	2 pts Needs Intervention Almost all sentences are difficult to read thanks to awkward structure or	0 pts Insufficient Essay is of insufficient length or quality to properly assess, is off topic, or contains	10 pts
Mechanics Both MLA style and standard academic English (SAE) conventions are adhered to.	10 pts Exceeds College Expectations Conventions of grammar and formatting following MLA style are	8 pts Meets College Expectations At least one type of error consistently appears as a pattern in MLA or	6 pts Nearly Meets Expectations At least two types of errors consistently appear as a pattern in MLA or	4 pts Misses Expectations At least three types of errors consistently appear as a pattern in MLA or	2 pts Needs Intervention Conventions of grammar, punctuation and/or MLA style seem to be ignored.	0 pts Insufficient Evidence of heavy plagiarism. Essay is of insufficient length or quality to properly assess, is off topic, or contains strong evidence of	10 pts
Total Points: 100							