

Assignment 1: Persuasive Essay**Due July 27, 2016****33 points****Assignment 2: Character Response****Due August 22, 2016 (first day of school)****26 points****Email to** apolzinetti@wayne-local.com

Or

Mail to

Mrs. A. Polzinetti

c/o

Waynesville High School

735 Dayton Rd.

Waynesville, OH 45068

If you know ahead of time that a deadline isn't going to work, email me ahead of time.

Late papers will lose points. See the rubric.

Grades will be posted by September 2, 2016.

Assignment 1: Requirements

1. Write a persuasive piece on **one** of the following topics.

A. Encourage a specific person to make the right decision. This should be a major decision with major implications. This should be a complex situation with multiple factors to consider and even more than one "right" decision. This may be a real or hypothetical, but realistic, situation.

B. You've been invited to speak at the Future Leaders of America annual teen conference in Nashville, TN (all expenses paid, of course). Write out your speech. Consider what you see as challenges facing your generation, your vision for the future, and advice you would give to people your age and the adults who are currently in charge of things (politicians, educators, business owners, etc.).

C. Encourage a person or a group to do something you think is worthwhile or meaningful. Consider how much effort it would take, the benefits to your audience and to other people, and the possible objections your audience might have. The more specific your audience, the better (are you addressing family members? People in your youth group? Your neighbors?).

2. 2-4 pages (2 pages means to the bottom of page 2. Thanks.)

3. MLA format.

4. Please proofread!

5. Due July 27, 2016

Assignment 1: Rubric

Category	Exceptional	Good	Adequate	Inadequate
Content 15	Thorough beyond my expectations. More than 4 full pages of quality information, developed and anticipating the audience's questions.	At least 3 full pages of quality information. You address the complexities of the topic in a balanced way.	At least 2 full pages (not including any headings). You address the question but not all the complexities of the topic.	The paper is short and/or full of fillers or repetition. The reader is left with many questions that could easily have been addressed.
Organization 5	There is a clear and logical organizational scheme assisted by transitions and topic sentences.	There is a clear organizational scheme assisted by transitions and topic sentences.	The paper has clear sections, but could benefit from a stronger organizational scheme.	The order is illogical or jumbled or there is no separation of ideas into paragraphs.
Style 4	The paper is interesting due to a sophisticated use of vocabulary and sentence structure.	The paper is appropriate to the task – it is not informal and may have some advanced vocabulary or sentence structure.	The paper is appropriately formal, but may lack voice. The writer's personality is missing from the paper.	The paper is too informal (lots of slang, for example), misuses words, or has little sentence variety.
Mechanics 5	The paper is ready to be published!	The paper has few mechanical errors.	There are some errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation, but they are not much of a distraction.	The paper has a distracting quantity of mechanical errors.
MLA 4	There is an MLA heading, an interesting title, page numbers, and, if appropriate, Works Cited page.	There is an MLA heading, title, and page numbers but there may be a mistake or two.	There is a heading, but it's not MLA or there is no title or page numbers.	There are no heading, title, or page numbers.
On time?	Early – up to 3 bonus points	On time	Received by the first day of school -3	Received later than the first day of school -4 or more, up to 50% off

Sample Outline**I. Introduction**

- A. What is the problem or situation at hand?
- B. Why is it a big deal?
- C. Identify your audience
- D. Thesis: What do you want your audience to do and why? (List the steps or the reasons in order.)

II. – IV. Steps or Reasons* Repeat this section for each body paragraph.

- A. Topic sentence with transition (First of all, you should _____. Or First of all, this is important because ____.)
- B. Explain the reason or step.
- C. Explain the consequences.
- D. Address any concerns the audience might have – fear, expense, impatience, etc.
- E. Mini-conclusion – What problem does this address or whom does this help?

V. Conclusion

- A. Review the plan in one sentence
- B. Review the major reasons
- C. Review why other decisions might be detrimental (bad)
- D. Review the major benefits to the audience and others

Assignment 2: Requirements

1. Choose and read one of the following books.

Beagle, Peter S. *The Last Unicorn*.

Cabot, Meg. *The Princess Diaries*.

Connolly, John. *The Book of Lost Things* *a few instances of graphic violence

Golding, William. *Lord of the Flies*

Haddon, Mark. *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* *a few instances of profanity

2. Read actively.

A. I advise you to make some notes about how the character changes

B. I advise you to mark key passages with sticky notes.

I. Big events

II. Big decisions

III. Consequences of big decisions

3. Write about **a page** telling me what you liked and disliked. Please be specific – refer to characters by names. Consider discussing characters, settings, plot twists, and even how the book is written (organization, vocabulary, sentence structure).

A page = single-spaced, full page handwritten or double-spaced typed

4. Please proofread!

5. There will be a follow-up assignment when school starts: write a literary analysis discussing how and why a major character changes.

6. Due August 22, 2016 (First day of school)

Criteria	Strong	Adequate	Inadequate
Content 15	Longer than a page of detailed reactions to a variety of things. Each reaction is explained and may include a direct quotation here and there to illustrate your point.	A full page of at least 3 different major categories of observations and reactions. Your opinions are explained and refer to specific events in the book.	Under a full page. Response limited to 1-2 kinds of observations. Reactions are general – it is hard to tell whether or not you actually read the book.
Organization/ Clarity 5	The response is organized in paragraphs with a thesis statement guiding the responses. Comments make sense are grouped together by topic.	There are multiple paragraphs but perhaps not a clear thesis. The response may feel somewhat random in order.	All one paragraph. Comments jump around from topic to topic. Comments may be unclear.
Mechanics/Format 6	Very few mechanical errors.	Some noticeable mechanical errors.	Several mechanical errors, possibly leading to confusion.
On Time?	Early – up to 3 bonus points	On time	Late – 5 per day, max -50%

Sample Outline

I. Introduction with general impressions and a thesis statement identifying the major categories you'll discuss (characters, plot, setting, style, etc.).

II-IV. Body Paragraphs – repeat for each major point

A. Topic sentence

B. Reaction or observation

C. Specific examples to explain what you mean

V. Conclusion – overall did you like it? Would you recommend this book to someone your age? Explain.