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| Persuasive Essay with Research Rubric 2016 Name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **Total\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/100 Pts.** |
| **Organization:**  Essay begins with an introduction. The thesis sentence is the last sentence of the introduction and makes the paper’s main purpose clear while outlining the entire paper.  Each body paragraph contains a topic sentence and support from a source Everything flows smoothly and is not forced.  **Conclusion paragraph ends paper and leaves us with both a reiteration of ideas and appropriate, well-thought-out food for thought.**  The entire paper works together as a coherent whole to present or argue the thesis. Ideas clearly and smoothly connect. The author had a clear plan for organization and demonstrates author control throughout the essay. | 10 points |
| **Content:**  Thesis Statement – clearly communicates paper’s main purpose and the entire paper works to support this statement. The thesis statement presents an argument that addresses the topic chosen by the author and asserts a fresh, thought-provoking idea that moves beyond the obvious.   * Body Paragraphs strongly support the thesis. * Topic sentences clearly support thesis and relate paragraph’s topic. * The support given in the paragraph clearly supports the topic sentence. * Signal Phrases/ attributive tags are used correctly to introduce each credible source. * The author incorporates sources in a relevant, insightful way and uses his/her own assertions and/or commentary to present the argument. * Each body paragraph contains ample support - at least one outside source is used per body paragraph. * The author writes the majority of the paper and does not depend on quotes to “fill space.”   The conclusion paragraph wraps up the paper in a strong way, leaving the reader with a clearly summed up argument and an insightful last thought. It brings an intelligent, creative end to the essay. | 40 points |
| **Grammar/ Mechanics:**  None or very few mechanical errors are present--for example:   * Sentence Fragments and Run-on sentences/Comma Splices * Pronoun/antecedent agreement errors; misplaced modifier issues; subject/verb agreement issues * Punctuation errors * Contraction/ abbreviation errors Ex. can’t = cannot, don’t = do not, they’ll = they will, etc.) * Punctuation around quotes Ex. “The road is a dangerous place” (Smith 65). * Misspellings/typos * Avoid tense changes/shifts (remain consistent). * Awkward sentence constructions and phrasing (AWK) * Coordinating Conjunctions (FANBOYS) used appropriately (commas used appropriately); conjunctive adverbs used correctly | 20 points |
| **Voice/ Style:**  The writer writes and interacts with the sources in a perceptive, scholarly, and creative way, using his/her own voice (the paper sounds formal, but not as though written by a robot)   * Diction-Unique, precise, and even powerful word choice is used (**NO** vague words – get, things, stuff, good, bad, nice, sad, glad, fun, way, etc.), and the paper is free of clichés. * Sources are incorporated smoothly; sentences and ideas flow smoothly. * Writer demonstrates variety in sentence structure - no repetitive phrases, sentences. * Author cuts clutter—no unnecessary words and phrases. * The writer does not use “you” except in the hook and/or the final challenge   ***\*\* Use of 2nd person (you) will be a one point deduction per occurrence \*\*\**** | 10 points |
| **MLA Style:** Use *Rules for Writers* handbook or use the Purdue Owl website .   * Correct MLA format/style is used—see handbook pgs. 524-525 * Page Layout—Heading, margins, font, header with page #, double spacing - see handbook pgs. 524-525 * Proper attributive tags and in-text citations with page #’s - see handbook pgs. 480-490. Ex. (Smith 95) * Attributive tags and other internal citations are smoothly integrated * **No hanging quotes or pieces of information left uncited** * **Internal citation matches first word/s of Works Cited page** | 15 points |
| **Works Cited Page** with correctly documented sources in MLA page set-up form. Use the Purdue Owl website or the *Rules for Writers* handbook to see examples and check accuracy of your work cited page | 5 points |

The above describes Exemplary work.

**Page** **Requirement** 6 Paragraphs (at least four body paragraphs—either 2 points and 2 rebuttal/response paragraphs OR 3 points and one rebuttal/response paragraph form the core of your body paragraphs. Anything else you’d like to add, like an extra response, a background paragraph, etc. is on top of your core expectation). A significant number of points will be deducted for papers that do not meet minimum requirements or follow directions given for assignment A final copy needs to be printed at deadline and turned into Canvas.