Social Issue Research Project

*Part I: Annotated Bibliography*

*40pts*

Objective: Students should be able to explore valid, appropriate website sites and research sources for a formal writing.

* *What makes a valid source?*
* *Where can you find valid articles and materials for research writing?*
* *What sources can and CANNOT be used?*

Purpose: you must research; it’s the first step and will help you generate ideas.

* *What is the main conflict with your social issue?*
* *What does the data tell you?*
* *What are some possible solutions?*

Knowing where to research is key for this project and especially into college.

Project: find at least FOUR valid, valuable, and reliable resources to read, review, and research. These sources must be legitimate and must meet the following criteria:

* CANNOT simply be from a Google, or similar search engines\*
* Have an .ORG, or .EDU (except newspaper sources) if from a website.
* NO WIKIPEDIA!
* Two-Three of the sources must be from MEL (Michigan Educational Library) through Harper Creek’s website and the high school media center.
* One of the sources must be from a newspaper or a printed book.
* All the sources must be thoroughly read through, annotated, and cited in a bibliography.
* You must use MLA format
* Evidence from these sources (direct quotes) will appear in your 6 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT \_\_\_\_\_ paper and SOCIAL ISSUE PROPOSAL and PRESENTATION.

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*Part II: Informative Research Paper: 6 Things You Should Know about \_\_\_\_.*

*100pts*

Objective: Students should be able to show their audience what they have gained and gather with their research and reading. Student should also be able to demonstrate proper citation, quote integration, and inference with your research materials.

* *What did I learn?*
* *What evidence could help me with my informative paper?*
* *How can I add evidence to my paper properly and fluidly?*

Purpose: to inform you reader about the topic and the six most valuable, vital elements of their social issue. What are six things everyone should know about my topic? (Model after ESPN’s published editorial writes).

Project: classify all your research and the lessons learned from your materials into six crucial elements of your social issue EVERYONE should know. This could include the following:

* Historical facts, dates, and people
* Statistics
* Real life scenarios and names
* Generalizations

The final paper must also include evidence, cited properly, from your FOUR research materials. Quotes need to be well integrated and valuable to your ideas.

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*Part III: Social Issue Proposal*

*95 points*

Objective: students should be able to apply research and generate a solution to their social issue that could be realistically initiated within their school or peer groups.

Purpose: aside from informing your reader, you want to take a position on your issue and propose a possible solution to fix it. Essentially you are arguing that your social issue is something that can be fixed—whether it is in a big way or something small—with some type of community service project, fundraising, etc.

Project: You must pick two of the following genres when creating your proposal and presenting your proposal.

Options include: *a brochure, a letter, a prezi, a website, a digital story, gloster (digital poster), advertisements, a blog, a podcast, PSA (public service announcement), and other—per teacher approval.* You must also consider your audience—who are you presenting this proposal to?

Regardless of what genres you pick, you must answer/identify the following components, which will be on the rubric for final grading…

* The Problem: What is the problem—why is a social issue or a concern? What are 2-3 things people should know about your topic that you stated in your research paper.
* Evidence: What are some specific evidence, quotes, and stats your audience should know?
* Plan: What is your plan? Give (at minimum) an overview.
* Details of Plan: What are some things your plan specifically includes?
* Costs: What are the possible costs?
* Materials: What are the materials you might need?
* Goals: What are your goals by the end of the project? What do you hope to accomplish?
* Works Cited: Where’d you get your evidence from?
* Contact Information: How could your audience get a hold of you to help with your proposal?
* Next Steps: so where might you go from here to get you proposal up and running?