

Mock Essay
Borger

Prompt: Compose a 750 word analytical essay on an invented or made-up topic of your choice.

Discussion of the prompt: Invent a fictitious or imaginary topic or premise and write an essay about it incorporating the different forms of quotes discussed in class. While your “facts” may be made up, you are still required to follow the **form** of an analytical essay—you are writing an essay, not a short story (see the attached example). You are limited only by the restraints of your own imagination; however, you must make a claim about and support the topic you have chosen. You cannot simply state, “In this essay I am going to discuss _____.” See the example below.

Sample Thesis:

The makers of the popular M&M candies must reconsider their use of the green and red M&M’s since a portion of the population remains color blind and are being deprived of a satisfactory chocolate experience.

In supporting the above thesis, I could use the fact that sight affects one’s taste (which it actually does, by the way). Next I could cite federal laws which prohibit discrimination against people who are handicapped and so forth. In other words, I would use **reason** to support an otherwise absurd premise. This paper does not require any “real” outside sources; however, you will be required to write a works cited page for your imaginary citations.

Organization:

Introduction:

Begin with an attention getter (quote, story, joke, statistic, etc.).

Summarize the issue of the essay.

Funnel toward a thesis statement—the last sentence of your introduction that states your position and presents an overview of your main points.

Body:

Begin each paragraph with a topic sentence that states your main point.

Provide support in the form of quotes from imaginary sources. You must have at least one quote per main point / paragraph. You must use each of the two types of quotes at least once.

Explain the importance of the quote in relation to the main point of the paragraph.

Explain how this main point supports the overriding thesis of the essay.

Conclusion:

Summarize the thesis and how the main points have “proved” the thesis to be true.

End with an exigency: the “Jerry Springer Final Thought” of the essay. Answer the “so what?” question (i.e. tell the reader what s/he can learn from reading your essay).

Grading Criteria:

A draft will be composed via email communication with Borg for homework points.

The final draft is due Friday, 03/05/2021.

Format your paper according to MLA style.

Mock Essay	A	B	C	D
Intro.	Creative, applicable attention getter. Concise overview of the primary argument. Clearly worded thesis that states position and the main support of the essay.	Applicable attention getter. Overview of primary argument. Clear thesis that states position and most points of support.	Attention getter present. Overview of primary argument present but weak or unclear. Thesis states, "in this essay I am going to...." Fails to mention points of support.	Attention getter lacking or inappropriate. Weak or missing overview of argument. Unclear or missing thesis statement. No mention of support made.
Organiza- tion	Clear expression of main points in relation to the thesis. Logical progression of ideas. Clear transitions between main points.	Main points clear with minimal repetition. Relatively logical progression of ideas. Transitions present between main points.	Main points distinguishable from one another. Points are repetitive or are extensions of other points. More than 1 idea in each paragraph. Unclear connection b/t points. Weak or no transitions.	Unclear main points / only one primary point discussed throughout the body. More than 2 ideas per paragraph. Unclear / awkward connection between points. No transitions.
Support	Uses 2 or more quotes for each main point. Clear and meaningful explanation of quotes in relation to larger argument.	Uses 1-2 quote for each main point. Explanation of quote made in relation to main point. Most support connected to larger argument.	Uses 3 quotes in essay. Unclear explanation of quotes in relation to main point or larger argument.	Fewer than 3 quotes for support throughout. Weak, missing, or unclear explanation to point or larger argument.
Quotes	Quotes are properly formatted with tags and citations. No errors in formatting. 3 types of quotes used.	Quotes are properly formatted with tags and citations. 1-2 minor errors in formatting. 2 types of quotes used.	Some quotes missing tags or citations. 3 or more errors in formatting. 1-2 types of quotes used.	"Floating quotes:" no tag, citation, or explanation. Multiple errors in formatting. 1 type of quote used.
Conclusion <i>Exigency: The "Jerry Springer" final thoughts.</i>	Well-worded summary of main ideas in relation to thesis. Includes creative, poignant exigency.	Summarizes main ideas without repeating wording in the introduction. Exigency present.	Summarizes main ideas but repeats wording from introduction. Exigency present, but repeats thesis.	Unclear or lacking summary. Unclear or repetitious wording. Weak or lacking exigency.
Grammar	Less than 3 minor errors throughout. No major errors.	Less than 4 minor errors. No major errors.	Multiple minor errors throughout. 2+ major errors.	Errors impede understanding. Multiple major errors.
Works Cited	No errors in formatting. Has an entry for each citation from the essay.	Less than 3 errors in formatting. Has an entry for each citation from the essay.	More than 3 errors in formatting. Not all citations from essay have entries or entries not mentioned in essay.	Multiple errors. Improperly formatted. No Works Cited page.