

## Article Critique Presentations

Oral reports/Brief argumentative essays - 50 points

Students will be assigned an article and will write a brief 2-3 page paper responding to the reading in a persuasive manner.

1. Students must take issue with some specific idea. It may be a small point of the main argument or minor aside to the main argument or it may be a refutation of the author's thesis. You should either support the author's claims and/or ideas or argue against them. Provide support for your argument by incorporating your own examples to back up your ideas.
  2. Students must write a detailed, analytical, point-by-point, thoughtful, convincing, well-reasoned argument explaining their ideas.
  3. Students may use ONE outside source to support their ideas in arguing something in the article. The outside source should not be used as a simple book report and doing so will result in zero points. Instead, use the source to help backup or exemplify your points. If used, the source must be cited orally and in the paper using the MLA format.
  4. The object is to test your thinking and reasoning abilities to see if you can analyze the article and respond in a clear, intelligent manner. These should be YOUR ideas.
  5. Students must speak for five minutes discussing:
    - a. the major elements of the article
    - b. the related issue, situation, or idea on which you will focus
    - c. your reasoning for your beliefs
    - d. students will receive questions and comments from the rest of the class and the instructor.
- \*\*You must develop at least two *open-ended* discussion questions to ask your audience at the end of your presentation. The goal of the questions should be to stimulate thought and classroom discussion.**
6. You will be in control of the discussion. If the discussion is dragging, it will be your job to stimulate the class with more comments or questions. If the class begins to get out of control, talking over others or not listening, it will be your job to handle the issue.
  7. These oral reports and essays will be assigned throughout the semester and will help form the basis for class discussions.
  8. Papers should be typed, using black ink, 12 point font, 1-inch margins and stapled. Include your questions at the end of your paper.
  9. Students must turn in their paper when they do the oral report. Late papers will not be accepted
  10. Presentation of information should follow the requirements of all speeches. You will use note cards (3 max), maintain eye contact, and follow the rules for appropriate speech delivery.