

Personal Reaction Paper

1. Using the essays you have been given so far, choose one of them as a prompt for your own personal reaction paper. Your reaction should be focused on discussing some aspect of societal mores as revealed in the prompt you choose.
2. You need to use a minimum of four (4) different strategies/techniques of developing your body paragraphs. Using more is not only preferable, but will probably create a better paper. Choose from the techniques of development on the "Collecting Evidence" handout that you received.
3. Use one or more of the organizational instruments (annotation, journal, web, 4 ?s, etc.) to help you generate responses and opinions you would like to make in your essay. Use a blank "Collecting Evidence" handout or your own paper to develop ideas for supporting evidence for your opinions and points you wish to discuss. Attach these to your final copy when you turn in your paper. Evidence of this planning should be revealed through your paper.
4. Paper structure:
 - Introduction:
 - Start with a writing strategy that will arouse your reader's interest. (That is, don't bore your reader—me!!!!)
 - Identify your prompt by including the title of the article, the author, and a brief summary of the article as it relates to your position. [Note: This could be done as the 2nd paragraph of the essay, OR you could pull specific quotes highlighting key points in the prompt and use them as guides/topic sentences for your reaction/response.]
 - Include a position statement (thesis) that tells your reader what you intend to discuss.
 - Body
 - Identify the main points of discussion, opinions (aka topic sentences) you will discuss in your paper.
 - Support these points of discussion/opinions with a minimum of four (4) different types of supporting strategies.
 - Make sure your personal reactions to the topic are included and interspersed with your supporting evidence. Reveal yourself, your personality, by integrating specific incidents and broader themes that illustrate the writer's important beliefs or generalizations about life. Make this something only you could have written.
 - Conclusion
 - Bring your reader to a sense of closure.
 - One effective option is to universalize the issue, explaining how your personal insights, lessons learned, or universal truths can apply to your reader's life or to society in general.
5. Your paper will also be evaluated on the elimination of Jones' Junk elements. Any Jones' Junk occurrences will result in grade deductions. Also avoid wordiness, passive voice, and any of the "abominations" we have discussed in class. Use subordination/coordination and parallel structures correctly and effectively.
6. Your paper should be as free of spelling, punctuation, grammar, and usage errors as possible.
7. Papers are due _____.