

# Argumentative Research Essay

## Essay for ENG 130: Argumentative Research Essay

### Source Materials:

- [“The Hanging Stranger”](#) by Philip K. Dick
- [“All Summer in a Day”](#) by Ray Bradbury
- [“A Good Man is Hard to Find”](#) by Flannery O’Connor
- [“Literary Analysis: Using Elements of Literature”](#) by Roane State.
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### Background:

In the previous unit, you wrote a prewrite introduction/outline. In this unit’s Argumentative Research Essay, you will transition your prewrite into a 4-5 page essay that defends your thesis using literary elements. Your essay should defend the following prompt:

### Prompt:

Many authors write about the theme, “If an individual does not follow the rules of society, there can be negative, sometimes violent, consequences.”

### Which of the three stories portrays this theme most effectively? How?

Hint to success: Use three literary elements to support your answer. For example, “Dick portrays this theme most effectively through his use of tone, conflict, and characterization.”

### Instructions:

- ☐ Read through all of the instructions of this assignment.
- ☐ Read all of the above resources.
- ☐ Select **one** of the three short stories to write about.
- ☐ Your audience for this essay are people who have read the stories.
- ☐ You need to use the Library resources or other search engines to collect **at least two** scholarly sources that will defend your thesis. One of these sources must defend your counterargument.
- ☐ Your essay will have the following components:
  - An Introduction: see unit resources
  - A thesis at the end of the introduction that clearly states your position on which author most clearly portrays this theme.
  - Three supporting sections of the body that defend your thesis
    - Each section should incorporate both text support and research support. Each quote, paraphrase or new information requires an in text citation.
  - A paragraph for the counterargument: see unit resources.
    - The counterargument would be the main argument for the opposite of your thesis
  - A concluding paragraph: see unit resources.

**Requirements:**

- Length and format: 4-5 pages.
- The title page and reference page are also required, but they should not be factored into the 4-5 page length of the essay.
- It should also be double spaced, written in Times New Roman, in 12 point font and with 1 inch margins. Essay should conform to APA formatting and citation style.
- Use the third-person, objective voice, avoiding personal pronouns such as “I,” “you,” “we,” etc.
- Please use the above sources and any outside sources you need to create a properly-formatted APA reference page.
- Use APA format for in-text citations and references when using outside sources and textual evidence.
- Please be cautious about plagiarism. Make sure to use internal citations for direct quotes, paraphrases, and new information.

**Students: Be sure to read before you write, and again after you write, the rubric criteria by which your paper/project will be evaluated,**

### Theme Argumentative Research Essay Rubric

	<b>Does Not Meet Expectations 0-11</b>	<b>Below Expectations 12-13</b>	<b>Needs Improvement 14-15</b>	<b>Satisfactory 16-17</b>	<b>Meets Expectations 18-20</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	Introduction is not present.	Background details are a random collection of information, unclear, or not related to the topic.	Introduction is attempted and explains the background, but may lack detail.	Introduction explains the background, including an overview of the essay's main points.	Introduction uses interesting anecdotes, questions, or other information to build interest. Many to all main points are logically related and developed.
<b>Thesis Statement</b>	Thesis statement is not present.	Thesis is unclear and loosely related to the paper or not present. Thesis does not appear in the introductory paragraph.	Thesis is attempted with little relation to the overall topic. Argument is somewhat unclear or confusing. Some supporting points are missing. Thesis may not appear in the introductory paragraph.	Thesis is present and relates to the majority of the paper. Argument takes a mostly clear position and is explained in adequate detail. Thesis appears in the introductory paragraph.	Thesis is organized and focused on the paper. Argument takes a clear position and is explained in full detail. Thesis appears in the introductory paragraph.
<b>Organization</b>	Many details are not in a logical or expected order. The paper does not use paragraphs. Topic and/or transition sentences are not used	Writing may have little discernible organization, but some details are not in a logical or expected order. The paper uses paragraphs ineffectively. Topic and transition sentences are used inadequately.	Writing has adequate discernible organization. Paragraphs are generally used effectively. Topic and Transition sentences are present in some of the sections	Writing is organized and details are placed in a logical order. Paragraphs are mostly used effectively. Topic and Transition sentences are used effectively.	Writing is effective, purposeful, and well-organized. Paragraphs are used effectively. Topic and Transition sentences add to the understanding and flow of the essay.
<b>Persuasiveness</b>	Fails to develop arguments and/or counterarguments	Some argument(s) and counterargument(s) are developed, but may be missing one or need further elaboration.	Develops most argument(s) and counterarguments.	Satisfactorily develops arguments and counterarguments.	Expertly and fully develops argument(s) and counterarguments.
<b>Evidence and Support</b>	Does not include text support and/or text support is not cited.	Very little evidence is given and used in the essay properly. Research evidence is not incorporated. Evidence may not relate to the thesis statement. Evidence is cited but not with the proper formatting.	Some evidence is used from the story and from one research source and/or evidence is somewhat related to the thesis statement. Evidence may or may not always cited properly.	Evidence is used from the story and from one to two outside sources and/or evidence is mostly tied to the thesis statement and used properly and is cited properly.	Evidence is used from both the story and from two outside sources and/or evidence is used effectively and cited properly.

<b>APA Format</b>	APA format is not followed.	Errors evident throughout all of the areas: 1 inch margins, correctly formatted title page, correctly formatted reference page, double spacing, Times New Roman, 12 font.	Errors evident in three to four of the areas of: 1 inch margins, correctly formatted title page, correctly formatted reference page, double spacing, Times New Roman, 12 font.	Errors evident in one to two of the areas of: 1 inch margins, correctly formatted title page, correctly formatted reference page, double spacing, Times New Roman, 12 font.	Free of errors in: 1 inch margins, correctly formatted title page, correctly formatted reference page, double spacing, Times New Roman, 12 font.
<b>Grammar and Mechanics</b>	Grammar and mechanics' errors make the essay incomprehensible.	Grammar, spelling, punctuation, and mechanics errors occur throughout document. Word choices are seldom academic. Sentence structure may be illogical or unclear.	Several errors in grammar, punctuation, spelling and mechanics present. Word choice reveals some understanding of academic language requirements. Many sentence structure issues exist.	Some spelling, grammar, punctuation and mechanical errors are evident. Academic language is upheld. The sentence structure is often logical and clear so that relationships among ideas are established.	Free of punctuation, spelling, grammar, and other mechanical errors. Consistent use of academic word choices. Sentence structure is mostly logical and clear.

**\*A zero can be earned if the above criteria are not met.**

**\*Plagiarism will result in a zero.**