Assignment Details- PART ONE

In the Humanities Project, you will compare and contrast two figures of the Humanities, focusing on their contributions and achievements. You will choose some of the earliest figures dating as far back as the fourteenth century, all the way up to the twentieth century, and compare that figure to a current, but relevant figure of the humanities.  
  
This project should reflect your understanding of these figures and their artistic flare that made them stand out among the rest. Based on research--explain how the earlier figure has influenced the current figure, and analyze how those contributions reflected the culture of each era.

1) **For this piece of the Humanities Project, you will submit your topic choice along with your thesis and map as a single 1-2 page Word document.**

Note that instead of a formal outline, you will focus on constructing a formatted map of your project. This map will be a guide of how your paper will flow.

For more details on writing your thesis and map, see the Study Guide for Thesis and Map in the Course Materials folder.

\*\*Please study the following example to see how to write an introduction and thesis statement and then develop a tentative map out of that thesis.

Begin with a couple of **introductory** statements that introduce the topic and main idea to the audience:

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| The world of literature has produced some phenomenal talents throughout history. Both Langston Hughes and James Baldwin have made major contributions to their particular genres. |

Then **transition** into your thesis statement as in the following sentences:

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| Both Hughes and Baldwin made great strides by lending their voices to a certain movement. Both were prolific writers with some of the same purposes, but with different outcomes. |

These preliminary sentences **introduce** and briefly **describe** your subjects (the people you will be writing about). Together, they lay the foundation for some of the main points that you will make in your paper. Now you go to your **thesis statement:**

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| In exploring some of the similarities and differences in the lives of Hughes and Baldwin, it can be argued that both of these writers' voices resonated over others during their respective generations. Although some of their life experiences may be similar, the work of these writers affected the literary world in a distinct manner. |

Your entire **introduction** and thesis statement should be at least one full paragraph (5-8 lines), with your thesis statement being the last sentence in the paragraph.

You continue now with the Body of the **Map**:

**First Section** - with details from the background of the subjects - to support the thesis. Discusses how the beginning (birth place, education, etc.) of their lives were similar or different in any way.

**Second Section** - with details from the background of the subjects - to support the thesis. Discusses some of the influences of other writers that can be seen in the works of the subjects.

**Third Section** - with details from the background of the subjects - to support the thesis. Discusses in detail some of the works of the writers that speak to who the writers are as individuals.

**Conclusion** - Wraps everything up by referring back to thesis and supporting examples. Be sure to mention both subjects again to reiterate the thesis. Clinch with a closing statement and leave the reader with something to think about.

Example:

**Study the guidelines for your thesis and map before you write to see how you can create a quality essay for your Humanities Project. Remember, a strong thesis statement is usually an indicator of a great paper!**

**Sample Map for any topic**

1. Introduction
   1. Opening to capture interest
   2. Transition sentence that leads to thesis
   3. **Thesis statement**
2. Body
   1. First Supporting Evidence
      1. Quote / elaboration on quote
      2. Example
   2. Second Supporting Evidence
      1. Quote / elaboration on quote
      2. Example
      3. Details
   3. Third Supporting Evidence
      1. Quote / elaboration on quote
      2. Details
3. Conclusion
   1. Wrap up the essay by summarizing your thesis. Do not simply repeat your thesis statement; instead, reiterate the thesis while finalizing your thoughts on the entire topic.

**Fine-Tuning Your Thesis to Build a Strong Outline**  
  
Adapted from the *Pocket Wadsworth Handbook*

**Tentative Thesis Statement (rough, vague)**

These musicians were very popular and made good music.

**Final Thesis Statement (more precise)**

Although both musicians/composers contributed a great deal to the music world, their journeys are vastly different. While Beethoven suffered in silence, Elton John has had to face other struggles in his personal and professional life.

**Tentative Map Based on Final Thesis Statement**

1. **Introduction** - Begin with two quotes - one from each subject regarding their craft. Transition into the thesis statement as follows:  
   Although both musicians/composers contributed a great deal to the music world, their journeys are vastly different. While Beethoven suffered in silence, Elton John has had to face other struggles in his personal and professional life.
2. **First Section -** with examples to support the thesis. Discusses how Beethoven and Elton John discovered music as an interest. Includes quotes from researched sources.
3. **Second Section -** with examples to support the thesis. Discusses how both subjects faced challenges along their journey to success. Includes quotes from researched sources.
4. **Third Section -** with examples to support the thesis. Discusses some of the major works of each subject and how that particular music has affected the world. Includes quotes from researched sources.
5. **Conclusion** - Wraps everything up by referring back to thesis and supporting examples. Clinch with a closing point and leaves final thoughts.

Grading Rubric for assignment

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| **Scoring Rubric for Module 02 assignment: (Thesis and Map)** | **Max points** | **Actual** |
| Began with a couple of **introductory** statements that introduced the topic and main idea to the audience and followed by strong thesis statement highlighted in yellow. | 2 |  |
| First section: brief bio and major accomplishments of humanist 1 | 1 |  |
| Second Section: brief bio and major accomplishments of humanist 2 | 1 |  |
| Third section – lists characteristics on which the two people will be compared. (at least three) | 2 |  |
| **Conclusion** that restates thesis in different words and leaves reader with something to think about. | 1 |  |
| **Used Outline format** as shown in example, APA style, and contains virtually no grammar or spelling errors | 1 |  |
| **Total** | **8** |  |