

## OnRamps Summer 2018 Assignment

Write a one-page (8.5 x 11) paper summarizing a specific source that is related to a controversy of interest.

- **Use your research skills.**
- You are allowed to reference a style guide, such as Purdue Owl.
- You are allowed to re-read your article as often as you like.

### FORMAT

- Put your name in the top left-hand corner and put your high school instructor's name (Dominguez) immediately below it.
- Next, include the full MLA style bibliographic citation entry of the piece you're summarizing.
- Set margins to 1 inch, spacing to single spaced, and font to 12 pt. Do not exceed one page in length.
- Use MLA style formatting for the citation and parenthetical citations. In addition to the convention of using parenthetical citations to indicate page numbers, please number the paragraphs for online articles and newspapers that do not feature page numbers. (The student sample uses that style).

### SPECIFIC SUMMARY EXPECTATIONS

Choose a viewpoint source to summarize.

Introduce the controversy and give background information that the reader will need to understand why people are debating this question.

Introduce the writer, and explain why this person is a stakeholder in the controversy. If necessary, introduce other stakeholders, and explain how this writer and his/her viewpoint relate(s) to these stakeholders and their viewpoints.

Offer a concise but thorough summary of the position this source is advocating. Attempt to provide a play-by-play or argument-breakdown summary (You may need to google these terms) or include a mixture of both play-by-play and argument-breakdown summary.

Stay as close to the text as possible, quoting the writer's exact words at times to tie both you and your readers to the original text itself. Where necessary and appropriate, cite page numbers for any quotations in parentheses after the quote (just the page numbers; no "pp." or "p."). Your aim is to hand your readers your understanding of WHAT this text is arguing for. Attributions and signal phrases such as "Smith says/notes/ states," or "according to Bell," etc., will help you designate what is called intellectual property. You will not have room to cover all the points a writer makes, so you will need to synthesize the information for us, tell us what position the writer is advocating, and then offer quotes from the text itself to demonstrate (to show us) that the writer is arguing what you say she or he is arguing. **Do not** offer your own commentary, opinions, or arguments about what the text says, and do not offer a rhetorical analysis of the writing. Stick to content: What is the writer saying in this text? What position is he or she advocating?

### **COLLEGE SYLLABUS HIGHLIGHT: PLAGIARISM = F**

#### ***GRADING MANDATORY MINIMUM REQUIREMENT: CITATIONS VS. PLAGIARISM***

Citations for all paraphrased material and quotations are a *mandatory minimum requirement* to achieve a passing grade of D- or 60 on all college assignments for this course. **Any college assignment found to contain uncited material or verbatim material reproduced without proper quotation attribution will receive a grade of zero (0, i.e. F), regardless of the total points earned in any other rubric categories.** This grading policy does not release students from their responsibilities for academic integrity as outlined in the Academic Integrity section below. Under that policy, plagiarized work is ALSO considered for potential referral to Student Judicial Affairs.