

Position Paper Guide and Suggestions

Due Date: Dec. 7, 2011 in class with a 50 percent deduction for each day late.

Purpose: Create a well-written position paper that captures your defined position on the general question as it relates to the novel *1984* using the identified resources.

The Question: The importance of individual freedoms versus the government's need to suspend those freedoms in order to protect its citizens.

Your Position: Writers will create a thesis-like position that includes their defined position on the question. The position will include reference to the novel *1984*. The position will not be simply a choosing of one side or the other.

Focus: The paper will focus on the novel *1984* by George Orwell. Throughout the piece, writers will refer to Orwell, the characters, the plot, and setting within the novel.

Resources: The *Bill of Rights*, the *Preamble to the Declaration of Independence*, the *Gettysburg Address*, the ricin plot article, the wiretapping case article, Taliban laws, selected *1984* quotes, and two documents selected by the writer. Please note that specific and appropriate references to all of these documents must appear in the paper.

Writing Expectations: Use all writing rules, processes, and instruction to date. Use your research on Position Papers as well.

Grading: Grades will be determined from several set of expectations. At one level, 40 percent is tied your completion of the 10 Steps ... and other prewriting, and 60 percent is directly related to your final product. Additionally, grading will be based on the expectations given in this guide.

Final Paper Format: Writers will use one-inch margins, font Times, size 12, non-bold, double-spaced, black ink, tab indents, and page numbers for the paper.

Headings and Titles: Create a class-style heading for your paper on the first page only. Writers will create a detailed two-line (single-spaced) title for their piece that directly reflects the topic and their position. Also, the paper will include section sub-titles. The sub-titles will be specific and reflect the content of the section.

Sections: Sections will include: introduction, main point one, main point two, main point three, and conclusion.

Paragraphs: Writers will use a variety of paragraph sizes including smaller paragraphs and larger paragraphs. Paragraphs should be no longer than eight sentences.

Sentences: Writers will use a variety of sentences throughout including simple sentences, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences.

Resource Introductions: There will be no citations in this paper. Writers will introduce each resource as needed within the writing. For example: *Within the United States Bill of Rights*, ... Later references will require a shorter reference such as: *In the Bill of Rights* ...

Five Separate Essays: One approach for success that writers may employ is to approach each section as a separate essay, combined to create the overall paper. The prewriting might reflect this approach.

Titles of Resources: Resource titles, when appropriate, should be italicized.

Banned: Wikipedia of any type and the use any additional works of George Orwell as resources.

Printing: Print in advance to avoid deadline issues. Printer or computer issues are not valid excuses for late work.