

Essay 3: Proposal with Research Assignment Sheet

Purpose: To solve a problem facing your school or community that is important to you.

Audience: Your audience will depend on the issue you discuss. If your proposal is to be accepted, it needs to be finely tuned to the demands of its audience. **DO NOT** assume your audience is an “average” person – have a *specific* audience in mind.

Requirements:

1. An Introduction that contains a **lead-in**, defines a problem that needs a solution, and transitions to the thesis.
2. An **explicit** thesis statement that is comprehensive and argumentative. Your thesis should
 - Make a claim that addresses the problem or need.
 - Use this formula: **A should do B because of C.**
 - Sample thesis from Ch. 12: “*Our student government should endorse the Academic Bill of Rights because students should not be punished in their courses for their personal political views.*”
3. A **clear connection** between the proposal and the problem.
4. **Evidence** that the proposal will achieve the desired outcome. Find at least **5** outside sources to quote / paraphrase as evidence. (These sources should be academic and/or reputable, not informal Internet sites.)
5. A consideration of the alternative ways to achieve the desired outcome and a discussion of why these may not be feasible. (opposing viewpoints)
6. A demonstration that the proposal is **feasible** and an explanation of how it may be implemented.
7. A conclusion that restates the thesis and connects back to the lead-in.

NOTE: *This assignment stems from Ch. 12—Proposals. Read the chapter carefully to see examples of how each part of a proposal is created. The student essay by Manasi Deshpande on pages 296-303 provides an excellent model of what a proposal argument looks like. She proposes that the University of Texas must make campus accessibility a higher priority.*

Things to Remember:

1. **Voice:** You will write in **THIRD PERSON** for this essay. Your audience will be someone who is not as interested in your personal experiences; rather, he or she may wish to know from a detached observer. So, no use of “I,” “me” or “my” in this essay!
2. **Length:** Your paper should be between **four-five** full typed double-spaced pages. You can include more pages, but your paper should not exceed six pages.
3. **Format:** Follow the MLA rules for page formatting (1-inch margins, double-space, header)
4. **Rough draft:** Your rough draft should include **at least** your introduction and main points that you want to include in your essay. This should be about two pages long.

5. Editing: I will consider grammar and mechanics in the final draft of this essay, so make sure to proofread carefully.
6. Extra help: Make an appointment to meet with me for extra feedback on your writing
7. Plagiarism: Students who plagiarize a phrase or an idea will receive a ZERO on this assignment! No exceptions. Cite your sources using Modern Language Association (MLA) Format. Your essay should include a Works Cited page at the end.