Taking a Stance: Argument Essay Assignment

Basic Paper Requirements:
- 1100-word minimum essay in which you will take a stance (position) on a topic or issue of your choice. Your essay must be in MLA format and have a strong, clear thesis (stance).
- Properly quote and cite your research and evidence in-text and on a works cited page.
- Minimum of three scholarly, relevant sources.
- You will be using a combination of Noodle Tools and Google Classroom to complete this essay. You will begin writing this essay via Noodle Tools; however, the directions for the assignment are on, and you will turn in your essay to the Google classroom site specific to your class.
- Your essay must have an introduction, body, and conclusion. As you conduct research, include information from all relevant perspectives and take into consideration the validity and reliability of sources. Once you have gathered your information, use the TECECC Argumentative Essay outline to help you compose your essay.
- Make sure you address and refute the stance of the opposition (counterclaim and rebuttal).
- Make sure your essay has an appropriate title.
- Please make sure to conduct a final edit before you turn your paper in.

Topic Selection: Once you have an idea for a topic, narrow down your thesis to a specific stance. Avoid broad, general topics. The more specific the topic, the more focused, clear, and solid your essay will be. Also, you will find it easier to choose relevant evidence to support your thesis. For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Broad and Unclear</th>
<th>Better</th>
<th>Focused and Clear</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Football is causing too many concussions and brain injuries and should be banned until player safety can be ensured.</td>
<td>Football rules should be changed at the college and prep levels to avoid concussions and other brain injuries.</td>
<td>Helmet to helmet and other full contact drills should be banned during practice at for youth and high school football.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heath care is a right all people should have.</td>
<td>The United States should begin the practice of socialized medicine.</td>
<td>The United States should provide health care, free of charge, to children under the age of 19 and seniors over the age of 65.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Directions: Due to the short amount of time left in the semester, we will spend half a class period discussing possible topics for your essay. You will have time in class to write and revise your draft; however, please use your time wisely. There is little time. You will have to work on this assignment at home as well. Make sure you take advantage of the resources available through the Noodle Tools program and the LBHS Media Center website. Ask questions, take risks, and have fun with this assignment!
Due Dates:

Final Draft of Essay (100 points)

Use this space to generate ideas:

1. Five topics I am passionate about:

2. Of those topics, I am most interested in _________________________________.

3. Under that topic, I am interested in the following subtopics:
   •
   •
   •
   •

4. My argument is going to be about
   __________________________________________________
   __________________________________________________

5. My stance on the topic is:

6. Write your working thesis statement here. Then show it to your instructor for credit.