

**Essay #4: Utilizing Arguments of Definition/Evaluation/Proposal
(PowerPoint – Team Presentations)**

1200 words

Subject Area: Natural and Physical Sciences; Social Sciences

Essay Type: Written arguments following a specific mode

Readings: Science writings; Essays in EAA; Scholarly articles

Draft due on March 9, 2007

Final paper due on: March 23 “ “

PPT presentations: March 23/26/28 [each group 15 min.]

Contents:

The subject focus will be on the natural, applied or social sciences, e.g., biology, chemistry, physics, engineering, sociology, psychology, political science, government. The essay should be directed to a general, but educated audience. It will utilize one of the following argumentative writings: definition, evaluation or proposal (EAA, Ch 9,10, 12). Examples of such essays can be: “Proposal to develop mini-storage devices for computer data”; “Defining civil rights and civil duties”; “How can you evaluate your congressman?” Be sure to follow and structure your arguments according to the Toulmin principles (EAA Ch 8).

Method:

First, select the area, e.g., biology, physics, etc., and then narrow your topic, adding a controlling idea. Remember that your essay will use one of the above types of argumentative writings. Search for appropriate scholarly articles on your subject. You must use at least three scholarly articles taken from either “Academic Search Premier” or “Expanded Academic ASAP.” Develop a tentative thesis and outline and then go on to your first draft. State your claim and reason in the second paragraph (or thereabouts). Take your time and revise it thoroughly. Start at least one week before the deadline. Even though each member of the group will write different essays (under a similar broad topic), the group will present ONE powerpoint presentation integrating one or more aspects of each paper (limited to 15 min. for each group).

Format:

The composition will not exceed 1200 words (ca. 4 pages), double-spaced with Arial font size 12. If you need to cite (or paraphrase) an author, you can do so by using a parenthetical citation (in-text citation) and placing the bibliographic reference in the *Works Cited* section. There should be one inch on all four margins of the paper. Your name and other information should be written on the first page, left hand margin. MLA style sheet must be used. You need a **running head** on the upper right hand side beginning on the first page.

Grammar and Style:

The composition must be impeccable. And in order to accomplish this, the writing must be free of any grammatical errors. The style must be pleasant and readable; no repetitions, and be sure to use proper choice of words. Knowing and targeting your audience is essential. Be sure that you have proper transitional devices between paragraphs, and that the writing has a logical sequence and order. Outlining beforehand will help you considerably. Don't scatter your evidences. Organize them by priority or impact. Finally, project your own *voice* and personality.