

Writing Assignment 4

For this fourth writing assignment (worth 15% of your final grade), please **write a response to an article or other written document of your choosing**. As you write your response, you will want to make an arguable claim that follows the three-story thesis model, and you will want to make sure each paragraph builds on the one before it. Refer to the textbook and other resources for assistance with this new model of writing. *Avoid the five-paragraph essay.*

Remember that the written response is one of the most common writing techniques you will employ at work, in school, and in your personal life. How can you ensure that your approach to purpose, audience, appeals, outside evidence, organization, specific details, etc. is as thorough and astute as possible?

To complete this assignment, you need to select a written document, whether an online article, an email at work, a piece of literature, or a magazine or newspaper article. Think about why this piece of writing was written (purpose) and to whom (audience). Address those elements in your own argument. Make an argument in response to that document that unfolds over the course of your essay. Be sure to cite this article in your reference page (see APA resources for help with citations).

Decide what argument you will make in response to the written document, and carefully consider the purpose and audience of your own paper. You must be responding to the ideas in the actual document, not just general ideas you know about the issue the document considers. So, be as specific as possible. Refer to particular moments in the text of the document. Any time you offer a definition or make a claim, follow your ideas with very specific evidence – whether a story from life, evidence from our course texts, outside research, etc. The more specific your evidence is, the more memorable and persuasive your writing will be.

Write a two- to four-page essay. Please include the following elements after your essay:

- References Page (cite source[s] in APA format)
- Appendix A: Audience Description
- Appendix B: Evidence of and/or a copy of the written document you are responding to. If you have questions about your written document, please check with me beforehand.

Purpose: To make a clear claim in response to a written document of your choosing.

Audience: Your choice. Be sure to attach a brief audience description to your draft, using proper [APA formatting](#) for an Appendix. Your audience must be more than one person.