**Essay**

**Review:** Exploring Perspectives – A Concise Guide to Analysis text to help you write your argumentative essay. Key Points – for more detailed information please read the textbook.

* Analysis consists of four main components: assertions (our points of view), examples (evidence that supports these points of view), explanations (justifications of these points of view), and significance (discussions of why these points of view matter).
* These components need to be present for an effective analysis, but not in a strictly formulaic manner; they can appear throughout an essay to various degrees and in various orders.
* It is important to understand and acknowledge personal influences and experiences before beginning an analysis.
* Research can help us learn new perspectives on a subject and engage in a wider discussion about how we see it and why it is relevant.
* Always acknowledge research, even when writing initial drafts, and incorporate it gracefully into the essay.
* Carefully review the research for relevance and bias before introducing it in an essay.
* Research should always supplement but never dominate an essay, and special care should be taken before incorporating long quotes.
* A close reading of a subject involves understanding the implications of the actions, terms, phrases, arguments, and images that make it up.
* An analysis of personal experiences, decisions, and relationships necessitates a certain level of detachment and a close reading of the relevant details.
* Background information can reveal the surface meaning of a subject but should not substitute for a more thorough justification of an interpretation.
* You can explain a subject further by comparing and contrasting it with others (actual or hypothetical), and by relating how your personal beliefs and experiences cause you to see it in a unique light.
* Broad declarative statements and clichés should be avoided because they do not provide a satisfying exploration of why a particular perspective matters.
* Certain heuristics like brainstorming and clustering can help us to consider the broader implications of our subjects more thoroughly.
* It is important to focus your analysis on the essential features of the subject and to make sure that each of these features receives adequate development.
* Effective essays subtly lead us into the key perspective, provide transitions. between the main sections, and leave us with something important to consider.
* An effective style can be achieved through providing sentence variety, precise (but not needlessly complicated) diction, and a personal voice.
* Careful editing can best be achieved by reading the essay a sentence at a time backwards to see more clearly the errors in grammar and spelling.

**Topics:** Pick one of the topics below to write an argumentative essay.

1. Is gun control an effective way to control the crime?
2. Should education be free for everyone?
3. Should charter schools replace the public school system that we know now?
4. As a whole, is there justice for all?
5. Should we have universal health care?
6. Is censorship of Internet necessary?
7. Should men receive paternity leave?
8. Should religious institutions have to provide birth control methods for their female employees, even if it goes against their religion?
9. Should women have to sign up for the draft?
10. Should a person have the right to choose when they die?
11. Is it an infringement on religious rights to have business owners provide services for LGBTQ weddings if they don't agree with the marriage?
12. Do you believe the death penalty is justified?
13. Can committers of sex crimes be rehabilitated?
14. Should prostitution be legal?
15. Should the LGTBQ community be allowed to adopt?

**Components:** Using either Microsoft Word or Google Doc (converting as a .doc file)

* Write a 1,500 to 2,000-word essay presenting the arguments for your topic (excluding title page and reference page)
  + Provide each stance of your topic as supported by scholarly / peer-reviewed sources; take into consideration the major theoretical perspectives supporting / refuting these arguments (Structural / Functional Theory; Conflict Theory; Symbolic Interactionist Theory)
  + Based on the presentation of each argument for your topic, convince the reader why the stance that you choose to endorse is the best
* Use a minimum of 5 scholarly / peer-reviewed source (in text citations must match reference page citation – only those that match and are scholarly / peer-reviewed will be counted)
* Format your paper per APA 6th edition formatting
* Upload your paper in the assignments – must be a Word file or a Google doc file saved with the file extension of .doc