

Fall 2015  
**ENG 1101**  
Persuasive/Argumentative Essay

Typed, 12 pt. font  
MLA Format (see handout)  
Attach the Planning Sheet  
Length requirements are below  
**DUE: Monday, Nov. 16**

In class we have recently read two essays that discuss ways to develop skills through education and through personal growth.

- Claudia Wallis and Sonja Steptoe's "How to Bring Our Schools into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" discusses how educational institutions should be changed to address changes in technology and to address the personal skills necessary for young people to advance in today's society.
- Howard Gardner's "Five Minds for the Future" discusses five traits of mind that must be developed through personal effort and education to successfully thrive in our increasingly interconnected world.

**ASSIGNMENT:**

Write a five paragraph argumentative essay that clearly argues for (your thesis) **one change that could be implemented in an educational environment that would prepare students better for the future.** You may address students in a high school or college environment. Your essay must reference *both* Gardner's and Wallis and Steptoe's essays using paraphrase, summary, or paraphrase plus quotation.

*Note:* your thesis may be very similar to one of the suggestions made by Gardner or Wallis and Steptoe. If this is so, give credit to the author and put the argument in your own words.

Your essay should include:

1. An opening paragraph introducing the general topic and your thesis statement.
2. Three distinct sections of support, each offering one focused point of support for your thesis.
3. A concluding paragraph
4. Clear transitions between sections and clear transitions with paragraphs to show shifting ideas
5. A works cited page using the format on the back. Add your last name and the correct page number at the top.

**LENGTH REQUIREMENT:**

A *well-composed* 1 ½ pages (in addition to the Works Cited page) may qualify for a C.  
A *well-composed* 2 page paper (in addition to the Works Cited page) may qualify for a B.  
A *well-composed* 2 1/2 page paper (in addition to the Works Cited page) may qualify for an A.

- These page counts do not include the Work Cited page.
- The above page counts do not guarantee the above grade
- **Papers with content less than 1 ½ pages will not pass.**

Works Cited

- Gardner, Howard. "Five Minds for the Future." *The Place Where We Dwell: Reading and Writing about New York City*. Ed. Juanita But, Mark Noonan and Sean Scanlan. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Dubuque, Iowa: Kendall Hunt, 2012. 111-116. Print.
- Wallis, Claudia and Sonia Stepoe. "How to Bring Our Schools into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." *The Place Where We Dwell: Reading and Writing about New York City*. Ed. Juanita But, Mark Noonan and Sean Scanlan. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. Dubuque, Iowa: Kendall Hunt, 2012. 117-125. Print.