

## Research Paper AP Language and Composition Spring 2017--Requirements and Due Dates

The objective for this research paper is to show you the process of collecting data and compiling it into an **ORIGINAL** research paper. It is extremely important that you research a topic you are interested in, and one that will provide enough data to support your thesis. This is a formal paper, yet it should reflect your ideas and your research. The data you compile will point toward a thesis that is all your own. This paper should not sound like bits and pieces of data strung together; I should be able to hear your voice through the written material, as well as your ideas. The format of the paper is also important, as this is what you will be expected to produce in college and in a business environment. Refer to your *Write In Style* book and the Purdue OWL site for specific format details. Details count. Give yourself enough time to do this paper correctly and to leave room for major things to go wrong (like a computer exploding just as you finish typing).

**\*\*\*NO STUDENT WILL GRADUATE FROM LUMEN CHRISTI HIGH SCHOOL WITHOUT  
COMPLETING THE RESEARCH PAPER REQUIRED JUNIOR YEAR\*\*\***

### Materials needed:

- \**Write In Style* book--**MUST HAVE EVERY DAY**
- \*Google Docs Account—all work will be submitted here, and on hard copy (outline, drafts, final copy)
- \*Rough Drafts and Final Draft **MUST BE TYPED**—make arrangements now to use a word processor or computer.
- \***Folder to keep each stage of material within**—to be turned in with final draft.
- \*100 pack of 3x5 Note Cards (in case hard copies must be completed for the project)

### Important Dates:

#### **1/30 Topic Cards (2) Due**

1) The topics you have the opportunity to address are the following:

a.) General Question:

“Is sacrifice valued in society today?”

b.) Developed concept: In his homily on August 23, 2012, Father Geoff Rose spoke about the importance of sacrifice.

He preached that true sacrifice is not just giving something up, or ritually killing an animal, but true sacrifice must be wedded to two ideals: contrition and humility. Jesus says, “Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee;” (KJV, Matthew 5:23). Sacrifice is not going through the motions, but expressing genuine contrition and humility.

Is sacrifice valued in society? Choose one character from literature and one person from a realm of society (politics, sports, entertainment, religious leaders) and examine the sacrifice that person has made or claims to have made. Does evidence suggest that the sacrifice engaged humility and contrition? What was the reaction of society to the sacrifice? Was the sacrifice valued or seen as a sign of weakness? What was the end result of the sacrifice on the person’s life?

**Do not retell the story. Do not write a biography of a person.**

2) State your thesis in the form of a statement about your topic, which your paper will prove, or a question about your topic, which your research will answer.

\*Following the format illustrated on p.5 of W.I.S., write your topic on two (2) 3x5 index cards.

\*Hand in TWO (2) **identical** cards. (I will keep one for my own reference and return one to you.)

#### **2/8 Bibliography (Sources) Due**—follow format on pgs.7-17 of W.I.S. (min. 3 print sources)

A=18-20      B=16-17      C=14-15      D=12-13      E=11 or fewer

(\* **Must use at least three sources within the final paper**)

#### **2/17 Note Cards due**—follow format on pgs. 18-21 of W.I.S.

A=45-50      B=40-44      C=35-39      D=30-34      E=29 or less

#### **2/24 Formal Outline Due**

#### **3/6 First Rough Draft due (typed)** (Chapter 5—pgs. 24-29)

#### **3/20 Second Draft due (typed)** (Chapter 6,7—pgs. 30-35)

#### **3/29 Final Draft due (typed) TWO COPIES turned in** (Chapter 8,9,10—pp.37-70)—**MAY NOT BE LATE!!!**

These due dates are **strictly enforced**. For each school day late, the grade will drop **TWO full grades** (for example, if you turn in an A paper one day late, you will receive a C). You will receive **2-3** class periods to work on this paper in the library, so for the rest **you** must make time.

### Important:

\*The Research paper must be **typed, double-spaced**, using **normal** margins (1" on the sides and 1" at the top and bottom), with any late corrections done in **black ink ONLY**. The MLA format in the *Write In Style* book must be followed.

\*The paper must be **at least six (6) pages and no more than eight (8)**. The title page, works cited, bibliography, and any appendices do not count in the written total.

\*Any **plagiarism or copying** (without credit to the author) will earn an **E** for the **entire paper**.

\***ALL MATERIAL** must be turned in the same day as the final draft in a folder and on **Google Docs**—include *everything*.