

# ENG 115

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## ASSIGNMENT 3: STANCE ESSAY

Due Week 10 and worth 230 points

Congratulations! You made it to your final assignment, and you have learned so much along the way.

- In the personal essay, you learned how to write with a strong personal voice.
- In the informative essay, you learned how to write objectively and support your points with credible sources to inform the audience.

Now in your final assignment, you will combine these writing techniques to write a stance essay. A **stance essay** takes a position on a topic and argues and supports that position with evidence. Consider your topic:

- What possible positions/arguments are there?
- What position resonates with you? (Which position do you believe is correct?)
- What are your main points?
- What are the counterpoints? Are you ready to dispute them?
- Do you have enough evidence to effectively support your argument?

For the stance essay, your personal voice (your perspective) should come through. This is just like assignment 1, except you should maintain a formal tone. And just like assignment 2, you will need to support your points with credible sources. You're ready to take a position on the topic you have been writing about!

### INSTRUCTIONS:

Compose a three-four (3-4) page paper in which you do the following:

1. Use third person **point of view (POV)** and the appropriate **voice** and **tone** throughout your paper.
  - a. Did you use third person pronouns? (he, she, they, their)
  - b. Does your personality carry over in your writing? Are your word choices personal and consistent?
  - c. Is the tone formal? Does it express your attitude about the topic?
2. Write an **introduction** paragraph, which includes your **thesis statement**. It is suggested that this paragraph contain 5-7 sentences.
  - a. Does your introduction include solutions or approaches on the topic?
  - b. Does your thesis statement include **three** supporting reasons that clearly express your stance on the topic?
  - c. Is your thesis statement clear and concise?
  - d. Does your introduction provide a preview of the rest of your essay?
3. Write a **supporting/body** paragraph for each of the three (3) points/reasons from your thesis statement. It is suggested that each paragraph contain at least 5-7 sentences.
  - a. Do your body paragraphs support each point of your thesis with relevant examples or statistics?
  - b. Do you address the opinions or concerns that your audience might have?
  - c. Did you paraphrase, quote, or summarize properly to avoid plagiarism? Did you comment on each quotation? Do you limit quotes to no more than 25 words?
4. Write with **logic** and with **transitions** throughout your paper.
  - a. Are your ideas consistent and well-organized, i.e., chronological order or order of importance?
  - b. Do your ideas flow from one sentence to the next and one paragraph to the next, in the order presented in your thesis statement?
5. Write a **conclusion** paragraph. It is suggested that this paragraph contain 5-7 sentences.

- a. Did you paraphrase or restate the thesis in a new way?
  - b. Did you leave a lasting impression, so that your readers continue thinking about your topic after they have finished reading?
6. Apply proper **grammar, mechanics, punctuation** and **SWS formatting** throughout your paper.
- a. Did you check your grammar?
    - i. The way words are put together to make units of meaning: Sentence structure, pronoun-agreement, etc.
  - b. Did you check your essay for mechanics?
    - i. All the “technical” stuff in writing: Spelling, capitalization, use of numbers and other symbols, etc.
  - b. Did you check the punctuation?
    - i. The “symbols” used to help people read/process sentences the way you want them to be heard and understood: Periods, question marks, commas, colons, etc.
  - d. Did you format according to SWS style? (See requirements below.)

### **SWS FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS:**

Your assignment must follow these general SWS formatting requirements:

- Be typed, double-spaced, using Times New Roman font (size 12), with one-inch margins on all sides. It should also have numbered pages, indented paragraphs, and a numbered Source List.
- Include a cover page containing the title of the assignment, the student’s name, the professor’s name, the course title, and the date. **Note:** The cover page is **not** included in the required assignment page length of three-four (3-4) pages.
- In-text citations follow SWS style, using attributive tags and signal verbs.
- Did you cite at least four (4) sources (no more than two (2) of the provided sources in the webtext)? Are your sources credible?
- Have you used SWS in-text citations to document your sources? (Author’s last name, number indicating the order in which you used the source in the paper.) For example, the first source in your paper would look like this: (Wielding, 1).
- Do you have a source list?
  - 1. Did you number your sources?
  - 2. Did you list the sources in the order in which you use them in the paper?
  - 3. Did you include major identifying information for each reference?
  - 4. Did you apply a consistent and SWS-style flow of information? (Author’s first and last name, Title of the source, date it was published, comment on where you found it, and page numbers.) For example: Natalie Goldberg, 2016. Writing Down the Bones: Freeing the Writer Within. p.100-126. ISBN-13: 978-1590307946
- Refer to the Soomo webtext or check with your professor for any additional instructions.

Points: 230

## Assignment 3: Stance Essay

Criteria	Unacceptable	Meets Minimum Expectations	Fair	Proficient	Exemplary
	Below 60% - F	60-69% - D	70-79% - C	80-89% - B	90-100% - A
<b>1. Point of View (POV), Voice, and Tone</b>  Weight: 10%	Did not use third person POV at all in the paper. Voice is inconsistent and lacks personality or identity throughout the paper. Tone is not formal and attitude is unrecognizable throughout the paper.	Uses third person POV in a couple sentences of the paper. Voice may be inconsistent and lacks personality or identity throughout most of the paper. Tone is mostly informal and attitude is mostly unrecognizable throughout most of the paper.	Uses third person POV throughout some of the paper. Voice is somewhat consistent and personality or identity is somewhat evident throughout the paper. Tone is fairly formal and attitude is somewhat recognizable throughout most of the paper.	Uses third person POV throughout most of the paper. Voice is mostly consistent and personality or identity is evident throughout most of the paper. Tone is adequately formal and attitude is recognizable throughout the paper.	Uses third person POV throughout the paper. Voice is consistent and personality or identity is evident throughout the paper. Tone is completely formal and attitude is easily recognizable throughout the paper.
<b>2. Introduction and Thesis</b>  Weight: 15%	Introduction does not include solutions or approaches on the topic. Thesis statement does not include 3 supporting reasons that clearly expresses stance on the topic; it is not clear, and/or it is wordy. It does not give a preview of the rest of the essay.	Introduction attempts to offer solutions or approaches on the topic. Thesis statement may not include 3 supporting reasons and/or may not clearly express stance on the topic; it is not entirely clear; and/or it is wordy. It barely previews the rest of the essay.	Introduction includes partial solutions or approaches on the topic. Thesis statement includes 3 supporting reasons and/or partially expresses stance on topic; it is fairly clear, and/or concise. It somewhat previews the rest of the essay.	Introduction includes effective solutions or approaches on the topic. Thesis statement includes 3 supporting reasons and/or effectively expresses stance on topic; and is sufficiently clear and concise. It gives an adequate preview of the rest of the essay.	Introduction includes compelling solutions or approaches on the topic. Thesis statement includes 3 supporting reasons and/or fully expresses stance on topic; and is completely clear and concise. It gives a completely effectual preview of the rest of the essay.
<b>3. Supporting Paragraphs</b>  Weight: 20%	Did not write or incompletely wrote supporting paragraphs for each point from the thesis statement. Does not consider opinions or concerns of the audience. Does not properly paraphrase and/or comment on each quote.	Insufficiently wrote supporting paragraphs for each point from the thesis statement. Insufficiently consider opinions or concerns of the audience. Inadequately paraphrases and/or comments on each quote.	Partially wrote supporting paragraphs for each point from the thesis statement. Somewhat considers opinions or concerns of the audience. Partially paraphrases and/or comments on each quote.	Satisfactorily wrote supporting paragraphs for each point from the thesis statement. Adequately considers opinions or concerns of the audience. Satisfactorily paraphrases and/or comments on each quote.	Clearly wrote supporting paragraphs for each point from the thesis statement. Fully considers opinions or concerns of the audience. Completely paraphrases and/or comments on each quote.

Points: 230

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<b>4. Transitions and Logic</b>  Weight: 15%	Ideas are inconsistent and/or are not presented in a logical order. Transition words are not used effectively to move from one idea, paragraph, and/or sentence to the next throughout the paper. Body paragraphs are not in the order presented in the thesis statement.	Ideas may not be consistent and/or are inadequately presented in a logical order. Transition words are used ineffectively to move from one idea, paragraph, and/or sentence to the next throughout most of the paper. Body paragraphs may not in the order presented in the thesis statement.	Ideas are fairly consistent and/or are partially presented in a logical order. Transition words are used somewhat effectively to move from one idea, paragraph, and/or sentence to the next throughout some of the paper. Body paragraphs are partially in the order presented in the thesis statement.	Ideas are mostly consistent and/or are presented in a logical order. Transition words are used adequately to move from idea, paragraph, and/or sentence to the next throughout most of the paper. Body paragraphs are mostly in the order presented in thesis statement.	Ideas are completely consistent and/or are clearly presented in a logical order. Transition words are used effectively to move from idea, paragraph, and/or sentence to the next throughout the paper. Body paragraphs are in the order presented in thesis statement.
<b>5. Conclusion</b>  Weight: 15%	Conclusion does not paraphrase or rephrase the thesis in a new way. It does not leave a lasting impression.	Conclusion attempts to paraphrase or rephrase the thesis in a new way. It attempts to leave a lasting impression.	Conclusion paraphrases or rephrases some of the thesis in a new way. It sufficiently left a lasting impression.	Conclusion adequately paraphrases or rephrases the thesis in a new way. It was somewhat effective in leaving a lasting impression.	Conclusion effectively paraphrases or rephrases the thesis in a new way. It left a powerful lasting impression.
<b>6. Grammar, Mechanics, Punctuation, and SWS Formatting</b>  Weight: 25%	There are more than 8 mechanics, grammar, and punctuation errors. The paper is not double-spaced; font is incorrect; margins are not one-inch on all sides, and, there may not be a cover page. It does not have page numbers and indented paragraphs. Did not appropriately use in-text citations throughout the body. No source list.	There are 7-8 mechanics, grammar, and punctuation errors. The paper is double-spaced; font is correct; margins are one-inches on any sides, and, there is a cover page. It only includes 1 of the following elements: page numbers and indented paragraphs. All citations are missing or have been used improperly in the essay and source list.	There are 5-6 mechanics, grammar, and punctuation errors. The paper is double-spaced; font is correct; margins are one-inches on any sides, and, there is a cover page. It includes all of the following elements: page numbers and indented paragraphs. Some in-text citations are improperly placed, missing, or not developed. Most of the source list is correct.	There are 3-4 mechanics, grammar, and punctuation errors. The paper is double-spaced; font is correct; margins are one-inches on any sides, and, there is a cover page. It includes all of the following elements: page numbers and indented paragraphs. Two credible sources are properly cited with some errors. Source List is correct.	There are 0-2 mechanics, grammar, and punctuation errors. The paper is double-spaced; font is correct; margins are one-inches on any sides; and, there is a cover page. It includes all of the following elements: page numbers and indented paragraphs. Two credible sources are properly cited with few or no errors. Source list is correct.