“As defined by Wikipedia, privatization (also known as denationalization or disinvestment) is the process of transferring property from public ownership to private ownership and/or transferring the management of a service or activity from the government to the private sector ... In recent years, public private partnerships have become a regular tool for national, state, and local governments to more conveniently fulfill their duties.” (Illinois Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability, 2006)

Privatization is a controversial topic. There are valid arguments for and against a state and local government’s outsourcing various activities, or even selling assets or infrastructure, to a for-profit company.

**Assignment**

Take a position on a U.S. city or a state government’s privatizing specific activities; defend your position. You may select a single activity—for example, lottery, liquor sales, prisons—or you may select Privatization in general and then use examples from several activities to defend your position.

You may believe that privatization is not an appropriate way for a government to raise revenues and shed responsibility. If so, state this position and defend it with facts supported by examples. On the other hand, you may believe that privatization is an appropriate way for a government to save money and transfer risk. If so, state that position and defend it with facts supported by examples.

You may need to do preliminary research to decide what position you want to defend. Once you have determined the position you wish to take, write the persuasive essay, following the guidelines below.

**Mechanical Guidelines**

\***If sources are is quoted directly, use quotation marks and cite the source, using APA style. Avoid quoting large blocks of text. If ideas from a source are used but paraphrased, city the source but without quotation marks.**

\*Use proper citations of sources and a List of References at the end of the paper. Cornette Library Citation Basics U

\*There is no minimum length requirement. Realistically, however, a minimum of five paragraphs are necessary to fulfill the content requirements.

\*There is no maximum length constraint, but your arguments should be able to be made in no more than six pages. Write clearly and succinctly; there is no reason to “pad “the paper to achieve a certain length or number of pages.

\*The essay should be double-spaced, typed (no larger than 12 pt.). Margins should be 1 inch on all sides.

\*Multiple-line headers and the title of the essay should be single-spaced.

\*The essay should be in Microsoft Word® or a compatible format. **No hand-written work will be accepted.**

**Failure to follow any of the above guidelines may result in point deductions.**

**Guidelines—How to Write a Persuasive Essay**

**Your persuasive essay’s objective is to convince your reader to adopt your point of view.**

“Although the persuasive essay only addresses one side of the issue, the topic must be debatable. Simply put, the persuasive essay recognizes that there are two sides to every question, but presents only one side to the reader. Still, it is important for you to understand both sides of the debate in order to promote your viewpoint effectively.”(Writing a Persuasive Essay, 2012)

Avoid taking a position upon which arguments are based on opinion or belief. “Don't confuse facts with truths. A ‘truth’ is a majority-held belief or opinion that is unproven and unsubstantiated by fact. Develop your argument using facts, logical reasoning, relevant examples, quotations from recognized experts, and/or statistics.

“Avoid arguing indisputable facts. **Start your essay draft by proving your thesis. Write the question, your position, and then write a thesis statement that directly opposes your viewpoint**. This ensures that you have chosen a debatable question. Examine the other side of the argument and determine whether your evidence is strong enough to disprove the opposing viewpoint. Look for contrasting evidence, mistakes, and inconsistencies in logic.”(Writing a Persuasive Essay, 2012)

**Selecting a Title for Your Persuasive Essay**

Your persuasive essay title should be a statement of your position on the question. “However, since your essay is objective, your title should be, too.”(Writing a Persuasive Essay, 2012)Your title Should define the topic, objectively state your position, and relate that your argument is based on evidence (reasons).

**Introducing the Persuasive Essay**

“Use your thesis in your persuasive essay introduction. The introduction should be a clear definition of the points that support your thesis. Present them in the same order that you'll use in the body of your essay to help the reader see that your position is supported in a way that comes to a logical conclusion...Don’t get too specific in the introduction. Leave the details for later. Just lay out your main idea and opinion. The last sentence of your first paragraph should be a Thesis statement and should contain the main idea that you will defend in the rest of the essay.”(How to Write a Persuasive Essay, 2012)

**Organizing the Persuasive Essay Body**

“The easiest way to organize the body of a persuasive essay is to think of your points as pointing towards your conclusion. Each sentence in the body should be closely related to your topic and to the sentence that precedes it. Your last sentence of each paragraph should be a transition to the next paragraph to help keep reading smooth.

Begin each paragraph with a point from your introduction, following the same sequence you presented in the introduction. Support it with your evidence. As you finish each paragraph, examine it as you did the opposing point of view. Look for mistakes, inconsistencies in logic, and truths masquerading as facts.

Be sure your evidence is specific. Stay away from using broad generalizations and personal opinions. Especially refrain from using words like all (as in all people), always, every, and never.

Check to see that you have accurately cited any sources you used in examples and quotations.

Help your reader see the logical progression of your argument by concluding each paragraph with a transitional sentence that leads to your next point.”(Writing a Persuasive Essay, 2012)

**Adding a rebuttal (optional)** You Are not required to do this, but it will make your essay stronger. In the second-to-last paragraph, address the concerns of people who might disagree with you.

“Before you begin writing your conclusion, check all paragraphs of your essay body to ensure that

1.Your evidence is strong and relevant to the point you addressed in the paragraph

2.The essay progresses logically to your conclusion

3.Both your points and supporting evidence are on topic and focused towards the conclusion”

(Writing a Persuasive Essay, 2012)

**Writing a Conclusion**

“Redefine your topic and summarize your essay by restating your most powerful evidence, again preserving the sequence of your presentation. The conclusion of your persuasive essay is your last chance to remind your readers of your position and persuade them to accept your point of view.

Except for restating the introduction, you can summarize the main points to enable the readers to recall the main points of your position.

A nice way to conclude the persuasive essay is to write a personal comment or call for action. It could be: 1) your prediction; 2) a question that will let the readers make their own predictions; 3) your recommendations to solve a problem; 4) a quotation.”(Writing a Persuasive Essay, 2012)

**Proofread. Proofread. Proofread.**

Use the spell checker on your computer to check spellings of words. Use a dictionary to ensure yourself of the meanings of words. Use a thesaurus to find synonyms for words so that you may avoid using the same words repeatedly.

Read the essay aloud to ensure that the content makes sense and that each paragraph flows naturally to the next. Have others check your paper.

**APA Style for Reference List**

Website

Bank, J., & Jackson, B. (2006, April 4). Can you prevent global warming? Retrieved from http://www.factcheck.org/

society/can\_you\_prevent\_global\_warming.html

See Rule 7.03, Examples 32-34 on page 206 (6th ed.) Include as much information as possible.

**Written Communication Assessment Form**

**Content Poor Acceptable Excellent**

Topic is poorly Topic is evident Topic is well

developed. with some developed,

Supporting details supporting details; effectively

are absent or generally meets supported and

vague. Trite ideas requirements of appropriate for the

and/or unclear assignment. assignment.

wording reflect Effective thinking

lack of is clearly and

understanding of creatively

topic and expressed.

audience.

**Comments:**

**Organization Poor Acceptable Excellent**

Writing is Writing Writing is clearly

rambling and demonstrates some organized around a

unfocused, with grasp of central theme.

main theme and organization, with Each paragraph is

supporting details a discernible clear and relates to

presented in a theme and the others in a

disorganized, supporting details. well-planned

unrelated way. framework.

**Comments:**

**Language Poor Acceptable Excellent**

Writing lacks Some sentence Wide variety of

sentence variety. variety; adequate sentence

Significant usage of wording, structures.

deficiencies in grammar, and Excellent word

wording, spelling, punctuation. Some usage, spelling,

grammar, cited sources used. grammar and

punctuation, or punctuation.

presentation. Multiple sources

Sources, if correctly cited.

consulted, poorly Effective

cited. integration of

information.

**Comments:**

**Total=**