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Paper #5: Classical Argument   **ENG 121 S. Drake**

Audience: For you to choose. To help you understand your audience, conduct an Audience Analysis and turn it in with your draft(s) (see the document entitled Audience Analysis Questions [on D2L])

Rhetorical aim: To argue

Length: 6 – 8 (not including your Works Cited page) typed and double spaced pages (see the document entitled MLA Formatting and Style Guide [on D2L])

Due Dates: Draft 1: R/27 (typed, plus your Audience Analysis [on D2L])
                              Final: R/4

Topic: Your Inquiry/Exploratory Essay Topic — *Racism /Sexism $ Advertising*

Tasks: For this assignment, choose a narrowed and focused controversial and debatable topic that catches your interest or relates to your own personal experience. **(Avoid ready-made pro-con subjects such as abortion or drugs unless you have personal experience that can bring a fresh perspective to the subject.)** Then examine the topic for possible claims of fact or definition, value, cause and effect, or policy. If the claim is debatable, you may have a focus for your arguing assignment. Next, think about your possible audience. Who needs to be convinced about your argument? Who has the power to change the status quo? Are there multiple perspectives or are there multiple stakeholders involved in this issue? Is there a compromise position you should argue for? (How might your understanding of your audience change your claim?) If possible, narrow your audience to a local group that might be influential. Finally, choose a genre or set of genres that best fits your purpose and audience.

Sources: You are required to use at least six fairly recent (2007 to 2017, not any older—except for older reference sources, such as encyclopedias) published sources (academic or professional journals and/or midlevel/substantial magazines or newspapers, government documents, books, credible Internet sources (try to avoid .com Web sites: use .org, .edu, and .gov Web sites instead), and/or an interview or *survey (*of at least fifteen people).

Paper you wish me to grade, **uploaded to D2L Dropbox (and Turnitin).**

Turnitin Overall Similarity Index:

The color of the report icon indicates the Overall Similarity Index of a paper based on how much matching text was found:

(Blue) No word matches
(Green) 0 - 24% matching text
(Yellow) 25% - 49% matching text
(Orange) 50% - 74% matching text
(Red) 75% - 100% matching text

What percentages are safe? There are no clear cut rules for this as all work will probably contain some words from other sources. As a guide a returned percentage of below 15% would probably indicate that plagiarism has not occurred. However, if the 15% of matching text is one continuous block this could still be considered plagiarism. A high percentage would probably be anything over 25%.

Criteria for Evaluation: The *general* criteria I will use in evaluating your essay are listed on the document entitled Grading Criteria for Papers. The *specific* criteria are as follows:

Specific Grading Criteria:

- ❖ **Analyzing the *rhetorical situation*.** Reviewing your purpose, audience, genre, occasion, and context helps you understand how to write your essay. Pay particular attention to your *audience*. Knowing what your audience already knows and believes helps you convince or persuade them.
- ❖ **Focusing on a *debatable* claim.** This claim becomes your *thesis*.
- ❖ **Representing and evaluating the *opposing points of view* on this issue fairly and accurately.** The key to a successful arguing paper is *anticipating* and *responding* to the most important alternate or opposing positions.
- ❖ **Arguing reasonably *against opposing arguments* and *for your claim*.** Respond to or refute alternate or opposing arguments. Present the best arguments supporting your claim. Argue reasonably and fairly.
- ❖ **Supporting your claims with *sufficient* evidence.** Use firsthand observations; examples from personal experiences; results of surveys and interviews; graphs, charts, and visuals; and statistics, facts, and quotations from your reading.

General Grading Criteria:

- ❖ **Is peer reviewed.** Peer Review Sheets are <u>due in class the day they were submitted</u>.
- ❖ **Is written in a clear style with few distracting errors and is organized appropriately.**
- ❖ **Meets length and MLA style requirements.**
- ❖ **Is uploaded to D2L Dropbox (and Turnitin).** The backup materials are—in the order they should be in the folder—as follows:

Right side:
- ❖ Project Cover Sheet for Paper #5: Classical Argument
- ❖ Freewriting FW5A/FW5B (FW5B will be completed **in class** on the paper's due date)
- ❖ Audience Analysis (on D2L)

Left side:
- ❖ **Self-evaluation using Grading Criteria for Papers and *specific* criteria outlined above.** Your self-evaluation should include the following: **1)** based on how well you met the *specific* and *general* grading criteria, explain *why* you feel you deserve a particular grade; **2)** indicate the actual letter grade you feel you deserve; and, also, **3)** make sure your self-evaluation is folded in half so I cannot read it without opening it.

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