

English 1302 – Essay #2 Critical Analysis

Choose one of the three essays listed below and write a 900 word minimum critical analysis that examines and evaluates the support of the essay's claim. Your essay will answer the question: Does the writer of the essay effectively support and ultimately prove their claim?

From *Current Issues*:

"The Truth about Torture" by Charles Krauthammer, pp. 828-835

"Now or Never" by Bill McKibben pp. 680-685

"A Proposal to Abolish Grading" by Paul Goodman, pp. 799-801

Follow these steps:

1. Read the essay to gain a general understanding of its purpose and meaning, annotating to mark important passages.
2. Outline the essay, noting the thesis, the points that support that thesis, and the ways those points are supported (for this, refer to the category Checklist for Analyzing an Argument on page 103 *Current Issues*). Consider the strengths and weaknesses.
3. Use accompanying worksheets to list examples both category-by-category and point-by-point.
4. Decide which approach you will take (category-by-category or point-by-point).
5. Shape your outline and create a thesis based on whether or not you believe the essay proves its thesis.
6. Write a draft. Your introduction should include the title, author's name, topic, and issue of the essay you are analyzing. Add a succinct and emphatic conclusion.

Requirements:

- Length: 900 word minimum
- Submission: Final copy must be submitted to Turnitin.com
- Typed rough draft due: 10/7 Monday in class
- Final copy due: 10/9 Wednesday in class
- Due 10/9: Final copy, both analysis worksheets, outline, rough draft(s), peer review