PAPER #3: OPINION (CONTROVERSIAL ISSUE)

Rough draft due _______________
Final (revised) draft due _______________

Assignment
In 3-4 pages choose and issue, argue a position, and support it with evidence (*papers less than 3 pages long will not be read*). Explain and support your opinion with
- A well constructed thesis statement
- At least three claims why the audience/reader should take your side
- A balanced number of counterclaims that you refute

*No sources are allowed for this paper.* This is your opinion, so choose a topic you are familiar with and make claims that you can defend.

Helpful Hints
- An issue is a controversy, something about where there is disagreement.
- Your argument is the case you will make for your position; it is the means by which you will try to persuade your readers that your position is correct. Good arguments need *solid and credible evidence* and *clear and logical reasoning*.
- The primary claim made in an argument is called a thesis. The thesis in an argumentative paper is the major claim the paper makes and defends.
- To get started, make a working thesis. Write the paper with the understanding that the working thesis will be reshaped into the actual thesis when all the ideas are in the paper.
- Provide full context for the issue you are writing about. Pretend like your readers know virtually nothing about your topic.

Topics
You are free to write about the issue of your choice. Some issues can’t be adequately argued in 3-4 pages. Avoid large topics like abortion, drugs, euthanasia, same-sex marriage and religion.

Paper #4 is a mini research project. You have the option of researching the same issue that you use for the opinion paper. In order to use a different topic to cover in your research paper, *you must obtain permission from your instructor*.

Note: If you are having difficulty coming up with a topic, see Chapter 22 in your book (pages 199-204) for ways to generate ideas and text. A list of ideas are also attached.

Format
- Use word processing, double spacing, 12 point font, and standard 1” margins.
- Provide a title page with the following information:

  Title of Paper
  Your Name
  English 180 (and your section number)
  Date
  Paper #3 Opinion Paper

NOTE: All peer edited drafts must be turned in with the final draft.
1 – Recently in Spain, models who have a body mass index of less than 18 were banned from appearing in the fashion show. Should this be allowed? Explain your choice.

2 – Prior to entering college, should high school graduates be required to complete 1 year of volunteering/community service? Explain your choice.

3 – Should non-natural born U.S. citizens be allowed to run for and possibly become President? Explain your choice.

4 – Currently in the state of Illinois, there is a law requiring all pharmacies to carry Plan B (morning after pill). Should all pharmacies be required to carry Plan B? Explain your answer.

5 – Should celebrities be allowed a “zone of privacy” where paparazzi are no allowed to be? Explain your choice.

6 – Should fine arts programs (art, music, theater) receive the same funding support as athletic programs? Explain your choice.

7 – Should The DaVinci Code be taught in schools? Explain your choice.

8 – In a public speaking class, should Adolf Hitler and his oratory abilities alone be studied? Explain your choice.

9 – Should English be the official language of the United States? Explain your choice.

10 – Should restaurants ban cell phone use? Explain your choice.

11 – Should working parents receive more paid emergency leave days than their co-workers who do not have children? Explain your choice.