

# English III: American Literature

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Assignment 1: Persuasive Essay

### OBJECTIVE

Using a persuasive approach, explore contemporary topics and develop a personal analysis of the selected subject.

### TOPIC POSSIBILITIES (BROAD SUBJECTS)

- high schools need stronger restrictions against situations of bullying
- high schools should always maintain the tradition of pep rallies
- high schools should main more/less restrictive dress codes
- professional athletes should be held accountable in a stricter fashion for their use of performance enhancement drugs

### DUE DATES

September 13, Tuesday	Declare Topic Choice
September 15, Thursday, due end of class	Tentative Thesis
September 16, Friday, due end of class	Introduction Paragraph
October 07, Friday, due start of class	Final paper due

1. Create an interesting, intricate, descriptive introduction which clearly shows the focus of your essay and leads the reader into subsequent paragraphs.
2. Be sure each new paragraph includes a strong transitional phrase. Paragraphs are fully developed with clear purpose. All body paragraphs must have:
  - strong topic sentences
  - **at least one quote or paraphrase from secondary evidence** (see course web site)
  - use signal phrases *before* you quote; provide in-text notations *after* you quote
  - be decisive in your subjective opinions
  - **use five or more sentences per paragraph**
3. Type the document with MLA guidelines: [www.davidglensmith.com/Huntsville/images/guidelines.doc](http://www.davidglensmith.com/Huntsville/images/guidelines.doc)
  - heading/header
  - margins
  - format ¶s/indent
  - double space
  - Times New Roman, 12 point
4. Do not talk to the audience. Do not use forms of the pronoun “you.”
5. Punctuation and spelling are used correctly.
6. Utilize correct grammar and sentence structures.
7. **Essay Length: five full paragraphs. Each paragraph has five sentences of development.**
8. See attached rubric for additional graded items.