**Written debate**

**Deadline: 27th November 2022**

Your second major writing assignment will be a paper discussing the pros and cons of a topic that you select from the list below. You will be writing this six-paragraph paper with a group, and each of you should choose one side of the debate for which to argue.

Suggested topics for your written debate:

* Should the minimum age for using social media applications be raised from 13 to 16?
* Is cancel culture more helpful or more harmful for society?
* Is online education more beneficial for most students than in-person education?
* Should all schools switch from paper books to ipads/digital books?

If you would like to choose your own topic, you must submit your choice to your instructor by 17 November 2022 for approval. You may only write about one of the topics listed above OR a pre-approved topic. The claims that you make for each side of the debate will need strong supporting evidence in the form of logical reasons, facts, examples, statistics, short stories, etc.

This is not a research paper, so citing sources is not required. You need to make sure that YOUR ideas are central (the sources only play a supporting role!). A good way to ensure this is to brainstorm thoroughly and begin to organize your ideas BEFORE you begin searching the sources. Do not allow the paper to become so full of quotes and paraphrases from sources that your voice gets lost. **Also, if you use anything from a source you must make sure that you cite the source correctly to avoid plagiarism.**

Your paper will need:

1. an introduction,
2. a clear thesis statement,
3. four body paragraphs that discuss both sides of the argument (giving two paragraphs and approximately the same amount of words to both sides), and
4. a conclusion. Your conclusion should state which side you think is stronger.