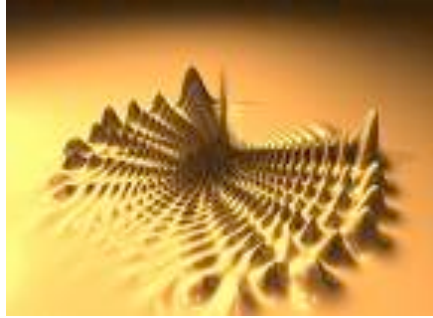


Fusion Essay 1 – 100 points plus The Battle Rages on....

Situation



“Trilobite Molocules” cfa. www.harvard.edu

Science Monthly, a scholarly journal, and *Theology Today*, have combined resources to produce a new publication – *Butterfly Effects* – situations in which a very small change in one place can amplify into a large change somewhere else. This radical new publication has hired you. As one of the journalists, your job is investigative and persuasive by its very nature as inquiry, analysis, and argumentation are at the core of what you will produce. Your first assignment is to consider the following two positions and

decide with which assertion you agree. There’s no standing on the fence here. You must take a solid stand in order to write this analytical yet persuasive essay. The primary purpose of this writing task is to convince your readers that one view is more valid than the other, and in order to editorialize responsibly, it is essential to support your position with two credible sources, those that take an objective approach to the assertions presented below.

Assertion One--Where would we be without science? It has helped us understand nature so that we can look at the world without fear and prejudice. It has, through this understanding, helped us harness nature's energy so that our industries can make more with less effort. It has given us medicine to combat disease and increase life-expectancy. And it has given us labor-saving devices that leave us all more time for more pleasurable and creative activities.

Assertion Two – It has also given us the atomic bomb, and our search for energy has given us hazardous nuclear power. Our industries have polluted the earth with toxic waste. Our ability to save lives has given us an over-populated planet. There is now talk of cloning human beings. We would have been better off if, instead of putting our energy into scientific research, we had devoted our time to improving ourselves.

Primary Learning Outcomes (although more could be listed)

- Make the connection between science and other academic subjects
- Recognize that writing is a process requiring thoughtful reconsideration and revision
- Gather, use and document information from scholarly scientific and academic journals to development an argument
- Use specific details to support claims, which may include interpreting quantitative graphs

Requirements

1. Work through the composing process – prewriting, writing, and rewriting – meeting all due dates.
2. Produce a final manuscript of 3-4 typed double-spaced pages, using MLA document design and format for citing sources.

So where do you begin? With the Composing Process – we will talk about each of the prewriting, writing and rewriting stages of the process, but below you will find a series of steps to help you generate ideas for writing this essay.

Freewrite your response: Spend some time writing you initial reaction to the two assertions. See where it leads you. This is a great place to begin so you can identify and mindspill what you already know about the topic and you do know something about it.

Next, do a little exploratory reading and researching to narrow your ideas a bit. After all you will want to use specific examples to support your position, but clearly you can't write about every aspect of science, especially in 3-4 pages. So you will want to be selective with the issues and with what you present as evidence.

Now it's time for conversation. Share your initial responses and exploratory work with your peer group. Discuss your position and the strategies you have incubating. Articulating your ideas and opinions may help you better understand your stance and what you will need to successfully write this essay. Conversation is a great resource.

Formulate your working thesis.

Timetable

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur
Free-write	Exploratory reading and researching	Conversation with peers	A working Thesis – and how to develop one
Writer's Workshop- Rough Drafts	Peer Discussion and MLA	Problem-solving Drafts Due	Peer Discussion and the Mechanics of writing
Final Manuscript Due with Cover Letter			

Evaluation Criteria for Fusion Essay One: The Battle Rages on...

This essay will be assessed for the following English 101 Criteria:

Focus
Development and Support
Organization
Mechanics

Below is Garrison's Quality Writing Guide.

An "A" paper

- Conveys immediately the "person" behind the words: an individual voice speaking clearly from the page.
- Has a title and lead working together smoothly to indicate the direction, scope, and tone of the whole piece. The reader feels the writer's assurance and has no doubt about what is being communicated.
- Offers a focus that is original and engaging
- Is packed with information and pertinent detail. Examples are carefully chosen and have a "just right" feel to them. Vivid language, deft comparisons, and colorful images create pleasing style.
- Organizes the material smoothly, logically. The reader does not stumble or hesitate over the sequence of facts or ideas.
- Has varied sentences, with rhythm and emphasis appropriate to the meaning. Phrasing is often fluent, even graceful, and the sentences read well aloud.x
- Offers word choices, especially verbs that are accurate, sensitive to connotations.
- Has punctuation that is appropriate, helpful to reader.
- Displays next to no mechanical errors (grammar and spelling).

An "A" paper is not necessarily flawless; there is no such thing in writing. However, it reflects a writer who is in full control of the material and the language.

A "B" paper has most of the characteristics of an "A" paper, **but**

- The focus is apparent but not entirely consistent throughout the essay.
- The organization is clear, and reader does not stumble over sequence.
- The information may be a little thin in places. Examples or illustrations may be slightly forced or exaggerated.
- Sentences tend to be pedestrian and occasionally awkward or wordy.
- Word choices are workable and clear, though verbs may lack bite or strength.
- Punctuation is occasionally confusing.
- There are few mechanical errors (grammar and spelling).

A "B" paper reflects a writer still developing mastery over his or her material and style.

A "C" paper

- Sometimes digresses in such way that distracts the reader
- Displays organization, which occasionally is not clear
- Has information that is adequate--but thin, and some development is overly general or inappropriate.

- In places, a "C" paper may be characterized by obvious awkwardness.
- Sentences have little structural variety. Phrases often are awkwardly placed.
- Often uses diction that is characterized by wordiness, clichés. U
- Unnecessary words and phrases make the writing loose.
- xGrammar, spelling, and punctuation errors may be frequent.

A "C" paper is adequate, but it gives a reader an impression of fuzziness and lack of assurance by the writer.

A "D" paper

- The writing is not adequate in the categories listed above
- The prose leaves the reader with an impression of the writer's inability to craft an essay
- May make some sense, but only when the reader struggles to find the sense. The writing displays little control of the material.
- There are multiple grammar and spelling errors and/or the overall presentation of the work lacks professional appearance
The reader has to work to understand what he or she is reading.

A "D" paper compels the reader to work unnecessarily hard to comprehend the essay.

A formal rubric will be distributed.