

## Assessment 5 Instructions: Persuasive Writing: Prewriting and Outlining

Prewrite and outline a persuasive essay that takes a firm stance on an arguable concept and persuades your reader of your stance effectively via argument strategies and the integration of scholarly research.

The fourth stage of the Hero's Journey is the epiphany. The epiphany is an understanding that creates a change. People experience personal and professional epiphanies all the time: sometimes these are *aha* moments that awake us to new ways of thinking, and sometimes these are more subtle shifts that lead to new ideas. You are developing your voice, along with your writing skills, as you move through this course. Hopefully, you are attaining new understandings about academic writing that you can take into your discipline. By now, you are aware of beginnings (birth), challenges (obstacles), and new knowledge (epiphany).

For this assessment, we will again start at the beginning of the stages of writing for the final essay—the persuasive essay. The purpose of writing a persuasive essay is to take a firm stance on an arguable concept and to persuade your reader of your stance effectively via argument strategies and the integration of scholarly research.

Here are some heroes whose epiphanies created change:

- Joseph Lister was a British surgeon and a pioneer of antiseptic surgery.
- Jonas Salk discovered and developed the polio vaccine.

### Demonstration of Proficiency

By successfully completing this assessment, you will demonstrate your proficiency in the following course competencies and assessment criteria:

- Competency 1: Compose text that articulates meaning relevant to its purpose and audience.
  - Select a debatable topic.
- Competency 2: Integrate into text the appropriate use of scholarly sources and evidence.
  - Use two scholarly library articles relevant to a chosen persuasive essay topic.
- Competency 3: Apply prewriting, planning, drafting, and revision skills.
  - Create an outline for a persuasive essay.
- Competency 4: Apply accepted style conventions and written expression skills.
  - Apply in text the standard writing conventions for the discipline, including structure, voice, person, tone, and citation formatting.

Identify a debate from within your discipline. In Assessment 6, you will write a paper in which you state and explain your position on that debate. You may choose from the following disciplines: nursing, public health, business, information technology, or psychology. You will then take your own stance within this debate and support your argument with two scholarly, peer-reviewed resources from the Capella library.

It is imperative that you identify a true two-sided topic, a topic over which educated professionals in the field reasonably disagree.

### Preparation

Continue your library research by going to the [Capella University Library](#) and searching across all collections. Using the Summon search tool, locate two articles in the Capella library that contain information about your selected topic. Also, use [Library Help](#).

## ASK YOURSELF

Address the following:

- When developing an argumentative thesis statement, how can we ensure that our statement is truly arguable and is not a fact or a *given*?
- Why is it crucial that we also brainstorm for opposing arguments and clearly address them in our argumentative essay?
- Should you use sources that support only your stance, or should you consider implementing a source that also disagrees with your thesis?

## Instructions

For this assessment, compose your outline for the persuasive essay:

- Create an outline for your persuasive essay.
- Select a debatable topic.
- Use a minimum of two scholarly library articles relevant to a chosen persuasive essay topic.
  - List the articles at the end of your outline on a separate references page.
  - Credit the authors of the articles within the outline.
- Apply in text the standard writing conventions for the discipline, including structure, voice, person, tone, and citation formatting.

Use the [Developing an Outline \[PDF\]](#) to guide you as you develop your outline.

Use the [Paper Formatting Example \[DOCX\]](#) to guide your writing and formatting.

## Additional Requirements

Your assessment should also meet the following requirements:

- **Written communication:** Ensure written communication is free of errors that detract from the overall message.
- **Standard formatting:** Include one-inch margins, appropriate headers, and a title page.
- **Length:** Submit 1–2 full double-spaced pages.
- **Font and font size:** Use Times New Roman, 12-point font.



## SCORING GUIDE

Use the scoring guide to understand how your assessment will be evaluated.

[VIEW SCORING GUIDE](#) 