

Part 1 Critical Thinking

Students, please view the "Submit a Clickable Rubric Assignment" in the Student Center.
Instructors, training on how to grade is within the Instructor Center.

Assignment 1.1: Conflicting Viewpoints Essay - Part I

Prewriting

Due Week 2 and worth 30 points

When looking for information about a particular issue, how often do you try to resist biases toward your own point of view? This assignment asks you to engage in this aspect of critical thinking by playing the "Believing Game." The Believing Game is about making the effort to "believe" - or at least consider - the reasons for an opposing view on an issue.

The assignment is divided into two (2) parts.

In Part I of the assignment (due Week 2), you will first read a book excerpt about critical thinking processes: "The Believing Game and How to Make Conflicting Opinions More Fruitful" at <http://www.procon.org/sourcefiles/believinggame.pdf>. Next, you will review the Procon.org Website in order to gather information. Then, you will engage in prewriting to examine your thoughts.

Note: In Part II of the assignment (due Week 4), you will write an essay geared towards synthesizing your ideas.

Part I - Prewriting: Follow the instructions below for this prewriting activity. Use complete sentences and adhere to standard rules of English grammar, punctuation, mechanics, and spelling.
1. Select one (1) of the approved topics from the www.procon.org Website and state your position on the issue.

2. From the Procon.org Website, identify three (3) premises (reasons) listed under either the Pro or Con section - whichever section **opposes** your position.

3. For each of the three (3) premises (reasons) that **oppose** your position on the issue, answer these "believing" questions suggested by Elbow:

- a. What's interesting or helpful about this view?
- b. What would I notice if I believed this view?
- c. In what sense or under what conditions might this idea be true?"

The paper should follow guidelines for clear and organized writing:

- Include an introductory paragraph and concluding paragraph.
- Address main ideas in body paragraphs with a topic sentence and supporting sentences.
- Adhere to standard rules of English grammar, punctuation, mechanics, and spelling.

Your assignment must follow these formatting requirements:

- Be typed, double spaced, using Times New Roman font (size 12), with one-inch margins on all sides; citations and references must follow APA Style format. Check with your professor for any additional instructions.
- Include a cover page containing the title of the assignment, the student's name, the professor's name, the course title, and the date. The cover page and the reference page are not included in the required assignment page length.

The specific course learning outcomes associated with this assignment are:

- Identify the informal fallacies, assumptions, and biases involved in manipulative appeals and abuses of language.
- Create written work utilizing the concepts of critical thinking.
- Use technology and information resources to research issues in critical thinking skills and informal logic.

Click [here](#) to view the grading rubric..

Grading for this assignment will be based on quality, logic / organization, and language and writing skills, using the following rubric.

Points: 30 Assignment 1.1: Conflicting Viewpoints Essay – Prewriting					
Criteria	Unacceptable Below 60% F	Meets Minimum Expectations 60-69% D	Fair 70-79% C	Proficient 80-89% B	Exemplary 90-100% A
1. Select one (1) of the approved topics from the www.procon.org Website and state your position on the issue. Weight: 20%	Did not submit or incompletely selected one (1) of the approved topics from the www.procon.org Website; did not submit or incompletely stated your position on the issue.	Insufficiently selected one (1) of the approved topics from the www.procon.org Website; insufficiently stated your position on the issue.	Partially selected one (1) of the approved topics from the www.procon.org Website; partially stated your position on the issue.	Satisfactorily selected one (1) of the approved topics from the www.procon.org Website; satisfactorily stated your position on the issue.	Thoroughly selected one (1) of the approved topics from the www.procon.org Website; thoroughly stated your position on the issue.
2. Identify three (3) premises under either the "Pro" or "Con" section from procon.org . Weight: 30%	Did not submit or incompletely identified three (3) premises under either the "Pro" or "Con" section from procon.org .	Insufficiently identified three (3) premises under either the "Pro" or "Con" section from procon.org .	Partially identified three (3) premises under either the "Pro" or "Con" section from procon.org .	Satisfactorily identified three (3) premises under either the "Pro" or "Con" section under "Con" from procon.org .	Thoroughly identified three (3) premises under either the "Pro" or "Con" section from procon.org .
3. Provide answers to the "believing questions" for the three (3) premises that disagree with your own position. Weight: 40%	Did not submit or incompletely provided answers to the "believing questions" for the three (3) premises that disagree with your own position.	Insufficiently provided answers to the "believing questions" for the three (3) premises that disagree with your own position.	Partially provided answers to the "believing questions" for the three (3) premises that disagree with your own position.	Satisfactorily provided answers to the "believing questions" for the three (3) premises that disagree with your own position.	Thoroughly provided answers to the "believing questions" for the three (3) premises that disagree with your own position.
4. Use complete sentences and adhere to standard rules of English grammar, punctuation, mechanics, and spelling. Follow APA Style format. Weight: 10%	Did not complete the assignment or had more than 9 errors in grammar, punctuation, mechanics, spelling.	Had 8-9 errors in grammar, punctuation, mechanics, spelling.	Had 6-7 different errors in grammar, punctuation, mechanics, spelling.	Had 4-5 different errors in grammar, punctuation, mechanics, spelling.	Had 0-3 different errors in grammar, punctuation, mechanics, spelling.

Students, please view the "Submit a Clickable Rubric Assignment" in the Student Center.

Instructors, training on how to grade is within the Instructor Center.

Assignment 1.2: Conflicting Viewpoints Essay – Part II

Synthesizing and Writing

Due Week 4 and worth 100 points

When looking for information about a particular issue, how often do you try to resist biases toward your own point of view? This assignment asks you to engage in this aspect of critical thinking.

The assignment is divided into two (2) parts.

For Part I of the assignment (due Week 2), you read a book excerpt about critical thinking processes, reviewed the Procon.org Website in order to gather information, and engaged in prewriting to examine your thoughts.

* Remember that in the Week 2 Discussion, you examined the biases discussed in Chapter 2 of the webtext.

In Part II of the assignment (due Week 4), you will write a paper to synthesize your ideas.

Part II – Writing

Write at three to four (3-4) page paper in which you:

1. State your position on the topic you selected for Assignment 1.1.
2. Identify (3) three premises (reasons) from the Procon.org website that support your position and explain why you selected these specific reasons.
3. Explain your answers to the "believing" questions about the three (3) premises opposing your position from the Procon.org website.
4. Examine at least two (2) types of biases that you likely experienced as you evaluated the premises for and against your position.
5. Discuss the effects of your own enculturation or group identification that may have influenced your biases.
6. Discuss whether or not your thinking about the topic has changed after playing the "Believing Game," even if your position on the issue has stayed the same.

The paper should follow guidelines for clear and organized writing:

- Include an introductory paragraph and concluding paragraph.
- Address main ideas in body paragraphs with a topic sentence and supporting sentences.
- Adhere to standard rules of English grammar, punctuation, mechanics, and spelling.

Your assignment must follow these formatting requirements:

- Be typed, double spaced, using Times New Roman font (size 12), with one-inch margins on all sides; citations and references must follow APA Style format. Check with your professor for any additional instructions.
- Include a cover page containing the title of the assignment, the student's name, the professor's name, the course title, and the date. The cover page and the reference page are not included in the required assignment page length.

You must follow these submission guidelines:

- Submit the essay to Turnitin.com and then submit the originality report and final essay with any needed revisions to Blackboard.

The specific course learning outcomes associated with this assignment are:

- Identify the informal fallacies, assumptions, and biases involved in manipulative appeals and abuses of language.
- Create written work utilizing the concepts of critical thinking.
- Use technology and information resources to research issues in critical thinking skills and informal logic.

Click [here](#) to view the grading rubric..

Grading for this assignment will be based on quality, logic / organization, and language and writing skills, using the following rubric.

Points: 100		Assignment 1.2: Conflicting Viewpoints Essay – Part II			
Criteria	Unacceptable Below 60% F	Meets Minimum Expectations 60-69% D	Fair 70-79% C	Proficient 80-89% B	Exemplary 90-100% A
1.State your position on the topic. Weight: 10%	Did not submit or incompletely stated your position on the topic.	Insufficiently stated your position on the topic.	Partially stated your position on the topic.	Satisfactorily stated your position on the topic.	Thoroughly stated your position on the topic.
2. Identify (3) three premises (reasons) from the Procon.org website that support your position and explain why you selected these specific reasons. Weight: 10%	Did not submit or incompletely identified (3) three premises (reasons) from the Procon.org website that support your position and explained why you selected these specific reasons.	Insufficiently identified (3) three premises (reasons) from the Procon.org website that support your position and explained why you selected these specific reasons.	Partially identified (3) three premises (reasons) from the Procon.org website that support your position and explained why you selected these specific reasons.	Satisfactorily identified (3) three premises (reasons) from the Procon.org website that support your position and explained why you selected these specific reasons.	Thoroughly identified (3) three premises (reasons) from the Procon.org website that support your position and explained why you selected these specific reasons.
3. Explain your answers to the “believing” questions about the three (3) premises opposing your position from the Procon.org website. Weight: 10%	Did not submit or incompletely explained your answers to the “believing” questions about the three (3) premises opposing your position from the Procon.org website.	Insufficiently explained your answers to the “believing” questions about the three (3) premises opposing your position from the Procon.org website.	Partially explained your answers to the “believing” questions about the three (3) premises opposing your position from the Procon.org website.	Satisfactorily explained your answers to the “believing” questions about the three (3) premises opposing your position from the Procon.org website.	Thoroughly explained your answers to the “believing” questions about the three (3) premises opposing your position from the Procon.org website.
4. Examine at least two (2) types of biases that you likely experienced as you evaluated the premises for and against your position. Weight: 15%	Did not submit or incompletely examined at least two (2) types of biases that you likely experienced as you evaluated the premises for	Insufficiently examined at least two (2) types of biases that you likely experienced as you evaluated the premises for and against	Partially examined at least two (2) types of biases that you likely experienced as you evaluated the premises for and against	Satisfactorily examined at least two (2) types of biases that you likely experienced as you evaluated the	Thoroughly examined at least two (2) types of biases that you likely experienced as you evaluated the premises for and against

	and against your position.	your position.	your position.	premises for and against your position.	your position.
5. Discuss the effects of your own enculturation or group identification that may have influenced your biases. Weight: 10%	Did not submit or incompletely discussed the effects of your own enculturation or group identification that may have influenced your biases.	Insufficiently discussed the effects of your own enculturation or group identification that may have influenced your biases.	Partially discussed the effects of your own enculturation or group identification that may have influenced your biases.	Satisfactorily discussed the effects of your own enculturation or group identification that may have influenced your biases.	Thoroughly discussed the effects of your own enculturation or group identification that may have influenced your biases.
6. Discuss whether or not your thinking about the topic has changed after playing the "Believing Game," even if your position on the issue has stayed the same. Weight: 15%	Did not submit or incompletely discussed whether or not your thinking about the topic has changed after playing the "Believing Game," even if your position on the issue stayed the same.	Insufficiently discussed whether or not your thinking about the topic has changed after playing the "Believing Game," even if your position on the issue stayed the same.	Partially discussed whether or not your thinking about the topic has changed after playing the "Believing Game," even if your position on the issue stayed the same.	Satisfactorily discussed whether or not your thinking about the topic has changed after playing the "Believing Game," even if your position on the issue stayed the same.	Thoroughly discussed whether or not your thinking about the topic has changed after playing the "Believing Game," even if your position on the issue stayed the same.
7. Follow APA Style requirements for format, in-text citation of quotes and paraphrases, and references page. Weight: 10%	Did not complete the assignment or had more than 9 errors in following APA Style requirements.	Had 8-9 errors in following APA Style requirements.	Had 6-7 different errors in following APA Style requirements.	Had 4-5 different errors in following APA Style requirements.	Had 0-3 different errors in following APA Style requirements.
8. Follow guidelines for clear and organized writing: include an introductory and concluding paragraph; address main ideas in body paragraphs with a topic sentence and supporting sentences. Weight: 10%	Did not submit or incompletely followed guidelines for clear and organized writing.	Insufficiently followed guidelines for clear and organized writing: did not include an introductory and / or concluding paragraph; did not address main ideas in	Partially followed guidelines for clear and organized writing: included a partially developed introductory and / or concluding paragraph;	Sufficiently followed guidelines for clear and organized writing: included an introductory and concluding paragraph; sufficiently addressed	Thoroughly followed guidelines for clear and organized writing: included an engaging introductory and thoughtful concluding paragraph; thoroughly

		body paragraphs with a topic sentence and supporting sentences.	partially addressed main ideas in body paragraphs with a topic sentence and supporting sentences.	main ideas in body paragraphs with a topic sentence and supporting sentences.	addressed main ideas in body paragraphs with a topic sentence and detailed supporting sentences.
9. Adhere to standard rules of English grammar, punctuation, mechanics, and spelling. Weight: 10%	Did not complete the assignment or had more than 9 errors in grammar, punctuation, mechanics, spelling.	Had 8-9 errors in grammar, punctuation, mechanics, spelling.	Had 6-7 different errors in grammar, punctuation, mechanics, spelling.	Had 4-5 different errors in grammar, punctuation, mechanics, spelling.	Had 0-3 different errors in grammar, punctuation, mechanics, spelling.