

My Turn ESSAY/BLOG

For this unit paper, as the heading above indicates, you are to use *My Turn* essays as a model for writing an open-form essay that connects your **personal experience**—or the experience of someone you know well—**with a social justice issue** at the local, national, or global level.

TOPICS: :[Possible Topics List](#) Also see list at bottom of this handout.

GAP

GENRE: Argumentative essay to be posted as a blog

AUDIENCE: Blog readers, especially your peers and people you get to read your blog

PURPOSE: Inform and ultimately persuade

Your purpose: Engage your readers' imaginations so that they care about this issue, maybe even want to take action in connection with it. In addition, you **MUST** include at least two facts or pieces of evidence from one or two outside sources that you appropriately introduce. **Use research and cite it in ways appropriate to the genre of creative non-fiction (i.e., name the author and text within your own sentences—no parenthetical citation or Works Cited page).**

You are making a claim/argument and using evidence to back your argument

PROCESS:

Possible Strategies:

1. _____
 - Think about a social issue either that you've been involved with via personal experience, volunteer work, etc., or that you've observed someone else experience.
 - Think about the powerful stories associated with those experiences.
 - Think about why a general audience should be concerned about your issue. Make issue relevant to your blog readers/audience (classmates, parents, teachers, etc.).
2. _____ Find at least one article from a journal/magazine from one of our reputable databases that gives information, facts, data, etc. about your social issue topic.
3. _____ Read and annotate the article closely, looking for specific details that you can use in your essay.
4. _____ Complete a prewriting exercise and outline.
5. _____ Write the "My Turn" essay expressing your argument about the subject. Approximately 500-600 words.
6. _____ After revision and feedback, post the essay to your Google blog.
7. _____ Share link with others so they can read your blog. The more readers and comments you receive the better!

MY TURN ESSAY/BLOG PREWRITING SHEET:

NAME:

This sheet and the printed source is to be attached to the completed essay.

1. What is the issue:
2. Write the title and source information of an article you hope to use about this topic:
3. What are some major facts/details relating to this issue? According to your source(s)- minimum of **THREE**
4. What are your opinions and feelings about this issue and how do they impact your interpretation of the facts?
5. How do you think this issue impacts your community? Your country? The world?
6. What do you think the future significance of this issue will be? How will this issue impact the future?

<p>Academic Freedom</p> <p>Adoption</p> <p>Advertising, Children's</p> <p>Ageism</p> <p>Pollution</p> <p>Air Travel: Safety, Security, and Service</p> <p>Alcohol and Alcoholism</p> <p>Animal Rights</p> <p>Anti-Muslim Discrimination and Violence</p> <p>Anti-Semitism</p> <p>Arts Funding and Censorship</p> <p>At-Risk Students</p> <p>Attention Deficit-Hyperactivity Disorder</p> <p>Autism</p> <p>Automobile and Highway Safety</p> <p>Bilingualism</p> <p>Campaign Finance Reform</p> <p>Cancer</p> <p>Capital Punishment</p> <p>Censorship</p> <p>Cheating</p> <p>Child Abuse and Molestation</p> <p>Child Labor</p> <p>Children's Rights</p> <p>Church-State Separation</p> <p>Civil Liberties</p> <p>Civil Rights</p> <p>College Sports</p> <p>Computer Crime and Hacking</p> <p>Consumer Debt and Bankruptcy</p> <p>Corporal Punishment</p> <p>Corporate Crime</p> <p>Corporate Downsizing</p> <p>Crime</p> <p>Criminal Rights</p> <p>Defense Spending and Preparedness</p> <p>Deforestation and Logging</p> <p>Disability Rights</p> <p>Divorce and Child Custody</p> <p>Domestic Surveillance</p> <p>Domestic Violence</p> <p>Drug Abuse</p> <p>Drugs, War on</p> <p>Eating Disorders</p> <p>Nuclear Power and Waste</p> <p>Nuclear Weapons</p>	<p>Embryonic Stem Cell Research</p> <p>Energy Dependency</p> <p>Environmentally Induced Illnesses</p> <p>Euthanasia</p> <p>Evolution Education</p> <p>Extinction and Species Loss</p> <p>Farm Issues</p> <p>Food and Drug Safety</p> <p>Foster Care</p> <p>Gambling</p> <p>Gangs</p> <p>Gender Issues</p> <p>Genetic Engineering</p> <p>Global Warming</p> <p>Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)</p> <p>Gun Violence and Gun Control</p> <p>Hate Crimes</p> <p>Hate Speech</p> <p>Health Care Reform</p> <p>Heart Disease and Cardiology</p> <p>Homelessness</p> <p>Housing, Affordable</p> <p>Human Experimentation</p> <p>Human Rights</p> <p>Identity Theft</p> <p>Immigration Policy and Law</p> <p>Immigration, Illegal</p> <p>Infectious Disease and Epidemics</p> <p>Journalistic Ethics</p> <p>Judicial Reform</p> <p>Juvenile Justice</p> <p>Legal Services for the Poor</p> <p>Literacy</p> <p>Marijuana</p> <p>Mass Transit</p> <p>Media Bias</p> <p>Media Sex and Violence</p> <p>Medical Malpractice Reform</p> <p>Medicare and Medicaid Reform</p> <p>Mental Illness</p> <p>Migrant Workers</p> <p>Minimum and Living Wages</p> <p>Native Americans and Government Policy</p> <p>Natural Disasters and Disaster Relief</p> <p>Tobacco</p> <p>Torture</p>
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<p>Obesity</p> <p>Occupational Safety and Health</p> <p>Organ and Body Donation</p> <p>Organ and Tissue Transplants</p> <p>Organic Foods</p> <p>Organized Crime</p> <p>Plagiarism, Literary and Artistic</p> <p>Police Abuse and Corruption</p> <p>Pornography</p> <p>Poverty and Wealth</p> <p>Prison Reform and Prisoner Rights</p> <p>Privacy Online</p> <p>Racial Profiling</p> <p>Sexual assault or sexual harassment</p> <p>Recycling and Conservation</p> <p>School Standards and Testing</p> <p>School Violence</p> <p>School Vouchers and Privatization</p> <p>Scientific Research Ethics</p> <p>Secrecy, Government</p> <p>Sex Education</p> <p>Single Parenting</p> <p>Social Security Reform</p> <p>Space Exploration</p> <p>Special Education</p> <p>Stem Cell Research</p> <p>Stress</p> <p>Students' Rights</p> <p>Suicide</p> <p>Superstores vs. Main Street</p> <p>Sweatshops</p> <p>Taxes and Tax Reform</p> <p>Terrorism, Domestic</p> <p>Terrorism, Foreign</p>	<p>Toxic Waste</p> <p>Traffic Congestion</p> <p>Unemployment</p> <p>Unions</p> <p>Urban Sprawl</p> <p>Veterans Care and Benefits</p> <p>Voluntarism and Volunteering</p> <p>Voting Issues</p> <p>Waste Disposal</p> <p>Water Pollution</p> <p>Weapons of Mass Destruction</p> <p>Welfare and Welfare Reform</p> <p>Wilderness Protection</p> <p>Women's Rights</p> <p>World Population</p>
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