

Positive Person Paper

Description:

Think about people who have made a difference in society. How many can you name? What would our world be like without them? History is filled to the brim with people who made changes. They had a strong belief or idea and they stood by it and pushed forward until it came true.

You are going to be writing an essay that has to do with the theme of Positive Change. In order to do this, you are going to do a little research on someone who has made a positive contribution to society. Of all the people who have changed this world for the better, who are you most interested in?

This will lead us into reading *Lord of the Flies*. In the novel, a group of boys are essentially tasked with creating their own society. Some of them try to change it for the better, while others have a different idea. But let's not get ahead of ourselves. We'll talk more about that when this paper is finished.

Requirements:

A 1 ½ to 2 ½ page Research Paper with at least 3 sources included (and an MLA Works Cited Page).

Typed, 12 point font, Times New Roman, Double spaced

Creative Title

Proper Header

Detailed Explanation:

You will begin by doing a little research and finding someone who has made a positive change in society. If you already have someone in mind, that's great! Get online and read about them. When you find a web page that you want to use, **make sure that you save it**. If you don't save that website, you will fail this paper.

Once you've found **at least** 3 sources, you can start writing your paper. Remember, you need a standard introduction, some body paragraphs, and a conclusion. Start by introducing the reader to your person, then give us some interesting facts and information about how they changed society. You don't need to spend too much time on their biography (I don't want to know about the house they grew up in). Just focus on how they changed things. When you are done, write a nice little conclusion that restates your thesis and leaves us with some final thoughts.

Finally, use Easybib.com to create your Works Cited Page. Easybib.com will do most of the work for you, as long as you have saved the websites you used. If you did not save those websites, you won't be able to make a Works Cited Page, and you will lose a lot of points.

Tips:

- I will be providing you with a Rubric for this assignment soon. Read it *while* you are working on the assignment, not simply before or after.
- Keep the purpose of your research paper in mind. What do you want your reader to get out of it?
- Don't forget your Works Cited Page

Steps for Writing Your Paper

These steps are meant as a guideline, and are the bare minimum of what should be in your paper. If you write one sentence for each step, you likely haven't done enough. These steps also do not account for how well you connect your ideas between and within paragraphs. Keep that in mind while writing.

[Introduction Paragraph Steps]

- 1) Come up with a hook. This should be an interesting sentence that gets your reader interested in the topic. Ask them a question, get them to relate to the theme, explain why the theme is important, or something else that might be intriguing.
- 2) Introduce the person you are researching. The reader needs to know who you are writing about. Feel free to give some background info about them.
- 3) Explain why they are important and how they have changed society.
- 4) Write a thesis statement. This is the last sentence of your introduction. It summarizes your paper in one sentence.

[Body Paragraph Steps]

- 1) Pick and insert your quote.
- 2) Cite your quote. ["blah blah blah" (Source 12).]
- 3) Introduce your quote (who says it and why)
- 4) Comment on the quote. What does it tell us about the person you are writing about?
- 5) Introduce the paragraph (What is the main point of this paragraph?).
- 6) Conclude the paragraph (if necessary. Step 4 might have covered this).

[Conclusion Paragraph Steps]

- 1) Restate your thesis. Remember the last sentence from your **Introduction**? That was your thesis. You need to say that again at the beginning of your conclusion (change a few words for good measure)
- 2) Restate your main points. This is a good place to summarize what you have been talking about throughout the whole paper. Sum up each paragraph with a sentence or so.
- 3) Give your final thoughts on the person (but don't use the word "I"). What sort of things do you think the reader should take away from the paper? What is most memorable?

[Example Paper]

Stu Dent
Mr. Adams
English 11 B
3/07/11

Spiderman: A Hero To All

It should be the goal of us all to change the world for the better. If every person made one change that helped the world out, that would be nearly seven billion positive changes. Imagine that! Now imagine if people made multiple changes to the world. We'd all be living in a utopia if that were the case. There are many people out there who are making lots of changes. Of all the people in the world that are making positive changes, Spiderman is probably doing the most to make our lives better.

Spiderman believes that the world would be safer with less crime. According to Paul Krugman, author of "Who Is This Spiderman Guy Anyway?", "Because Spiderman constantly delivers justice to the criminal underworld, New York City has seen a dramatic decrease in violence and theft" (Krugman). The effects of Spiderman's efforts are obviously visible throughout the city. Thanks to him, it's safe to walk the streets again.

Spiderman doesn't want to just clean the crime off the streets, he also wants to keep the streets literally clean. The website, "Superhero World" says, "Spiderman's webs are biodegradable because he truly cares about the environment. Talk about a Green superhero" (Superhero World). Spiderman doesn't just want to make a change when it comes to crime, he also wants to change the world by staying environmentally friendly. He clearly wants to change the world for the better.

Spiderman clearly changes the world in a positive way. He saves it almost every day. The article, "Curse You, Spiderman!" tells us that "Spiderman constantly thwarts evil villains. No matter what they use to enslave humanity, whether it is a giant mind control device or a robot army, Spiderman somehow saves the day" (Curse You, Spiderman!). If it wasn't for Spiderman, we would all be mindless zombies slaving away under the command of Dr. Octopus. That would be terrible.

If everyone was like Spiderman, we wouldn't have any more crime, violence, or evil geniuses trying to blow up the sun. That's the kind of world people would be glad to live in. Spiderman helps to stop crime, he

keeps the environment clean, and he thwarts villains bent on world domination. What would we do without him? That's a question the world doesn't want answered.