This week we begin our final essay, and it's an easy one to explain.

Select any Viewpoints essay you haven't already written about and write a summary-and-response essay using one of the *Pursing Possible Essay Topics* suggested at the end of the essay you choose.

Be sure your essay's introductory paragraph includes the five elements we've practiced: the *author* of the essay you are using, the *name* of the essay, a brief *summary* of the essay, a *transition* to your thesis, and your *thesis sentence*.

Also, please be sure to blend the author's words and ideas with your own when appropriate (and for practice) and follow MLA guidelines exactly to document them. For help and review, please read the revised *Citing Viewpoints Essays* in this week’s assignments folder. In addition, please provide a proper MLA Works Cited page entry at the end of your essay.

**Writing Groups**

You may find yourself in a different writing group for this essay, so please be sure to locate your name before submitting your rough draft. Again, please keep in mind that the purpose of a writing group is to offer constructive feedback on the drafts of essays after the drafts have been taken through **at least** the second revision described on pp. 60-74 of our text. Feedback from your peers concerning your essay can then be blended into your subsequent revisions to make your final draft (the one you submit for a grade) even better.

The version of your essay, taken **at least through the second revision**, is due submitted to your Writing Group **by the date specified on the calendar**. An on-time submission can yield up to five points.

Each member of the Writing Group will then have the next few days to offer constructive comments and suggestions to the other members’ drafts. Of course, it is always your choice whether to incorporate your Writing Group’s advice into your essay.

In addition, full participation in your Writing Group by offering useful, constructive comments to all members concerning their essays can earn an additional five points if completed by the due date on the calendar.

You will then have the next few days to complete the third and fourth revisions of your essay, and put your essay in its final form. **You may either submit the final draft to me by using the Essay Drop Box or you may turn in a hard copy at our end-of-the-quarter meeting.** Please note the due date for your final version on the calendar. **An essay can earn up to 100 points.**

**Be sure your opening paragraph includes the five requirements we learned for essay #2 and that you blend words from the *Viewpoints* essay with your own where appropriate. Be sure to follow proper MLA citation guidelines to give credit to the words you borrow.**

One note—once you give the author’s full name in your introduction, refer to him or her by last name only throughout the rest of your essay.

Instead of submitting your final copy through ANGEL, you can print out and bring a final, double-spaced gradable copy to our end-of-the-quarter meeting. If you would also like to include this final essay in your Portfolio, please bring a second copy for that.