**Post Assessment Synthesis Essay**

**The Prompt:**

**Agree or Disagree: Today’s society limits people’s ability to achieve happiness.**

**The Task**

* In a well-developed essay use at least **TWO of the articles** provided to support your stance on the above prompt. Links to these articles are posted on our class website.
* It is important that your argument be **clear and decisive** and that you use at least TWO of the articles provided.
* Your goal for this assignment is to defend your claim, while showing that you have read and analyzed the articles.

**The Steps**

1. Read **all** the articles provided (links posted on class website).
2. Determine your position on this question after reading the articles.
3. Outline your argument using the organizer provided.  Prepare textual support from at least TWO texts to defend your claim/thesis.
4. Write your essay.
5. Revise your essay.
6. Post your final draft on Turn It In.
7. Print a copy of your essay to turn in.

**Formatting Requirements: double spaced, 12 point font, 1 inch margins**

**\*\*\*Just put your ID# on your essay: NO NAME!!!**

**See the following pages for OUTLINE and SCORING RUBRIC/GUIDE**

**Synthesis Essay Outline**

Thesis Statement/Claim:

Topic Sentence #1:

Evidence #1:

Evidence #2:

Topic Sentence #2:

Evidence #1:

Evidence #2:

**Happiness Essay Grading Criteria**

**Claim/Thesis**

- strong, clear, valid, and arguable thesis/claim derived from a prompt. Thesis/claim is OPEN.

**Body**

Topic Sentences

- Paragraphs are focused on a controlling, general reason why the thesis/claim is true.

-Each reason is distinctly different.

**Evidence**

-Authors and titles and main idea of articles/sources are mentioned the first time used.

-Paragraphs use an adequate number of examples that support (2 quotations) each topic sentence/reason and the thesis/claim.

-Evidence comes from at least two different sources in each paragraph.

-Evidence is effective and carefully chosen. Evidence does not just restate topic sentence.

-Proper context is provided for evidence.

-Evidence is carefully integrated into the writer’s own sentence.

**Analysis**

-- links evidence to topic sentence and thesis/claim

- Analysis is strong, insightful, and demonstrates critical thinking.

- There are no breakdowns or gaps in logic.

- Evidence is analyzed thoroughly. The analysis fully connects the evidence back to the topic sentence

- The analysis fully connects back to the thesis/claim.

-A concluding sentence effectively restates the main point of each paragraph, while avoiding restating the topic sentence.

**Source citation**

-MLA citations are accurate

**Other**

-Sensible transitions between paragraphs guide the reader through the paragraph in an organized fashion.

-Essay also incorporates transitions within paragraphs, which help keep the reader focused on the topic. SOPHISTICATION (NO *THIS Quote, This SHOWS, This proves. Replace “this” with specifics in regard to your evidence*).

-essay is carefully edited and proofread in order to attend to the norms and conventions of English grammar, usage, and mechanics.

-You must use ONLY the articles provided. You must use at least two per reason/topic.