

## **Community Research Writing Assignment #1: The Detailed Research Report - 3rd Quarter**

Compose a research report with the following parts. Remember to include the names of all group members.

### **Part One - Introduce the Issue**

In this portion of the paper, you will introduce your audience to the topic you have chosen and you will explain the nature of the issue. Explain the major and related questions surrounding this issue. Be thorough and detailed in this portion in order to give the reader a clear picture of what will be discussed and studied throughout the remainder of the report.

### **Part Two - Research & Methods**

In part two, you will provide a detailed explanation of the methods you used to gather information. You will want to spend time thinking and discussing with your group members about all the efforts that went into becoming informed on this topic. Did you visit the museum or library? Did you search the internet? Did you conduct interviews or surveys? Who did you speak with? How did you make sure to consider all perspectives on the issue, including those that might disagree with you? Explain the credibility of each source you consulted. Leave no stone unturned while explaining your research efforts. Be thorough. Be detailed.

### **Part Three - Your Findings**

In this portion, report the evidence you gathered from the research you explained in Part Two. What information have you gathered during your investigation of this issue? What pictures, maps, scientific reports or primary source documents have you found? What news articles have you read and what did they say? What do you know now that you didn't know before? From which researched source did you gain this information? Consider adding images and scans of your evidence into your report. Again, be thorough. Remember to consider all potential sources, including those gathered from primary and secondary research. In some cases, personal experiences might be relevant. Leave nothing out. This is a space to demonstrate all the effort you've put into this project.

### **Part Four - Analysis**

Interpret your findings here. What does all the evidence mean and why is it valid? This isn't a space for weak or general thoughts. We're looking for in-depth thinking regarding the issue and the evidence. What are the possible, varied implications of each piece of evidence? Don't simply look at implications that support your original position. Consider all implications and possible solutions. Discuss probability. This is a space the depth of thought you've put into this project.

### **Part Five - Conclusion & Recommendations**

Based on your findings and analysis, what can be reasonably concluded? What position do you and your team members find yourselves in when considering all the data? What solutions will you recommend based on the findings? This is a space to demonstrate the maturity you've gained through your research and analysis.

**Community Research Writing Assignment #2:  
The Informed Argument (Opinion/Editorial) - 4th Quarter**

Write a letter to the editor of The Stillwater County News with the following criteria:

- Introduce the issue to Stillwater County News readers.
- Present your evidence and make a thorough, convincing case.
- Educate the public on your findings so that they may be informed as well.
- Make a mature argument, including recommendations based on the evidence and possible solutions you provide.
- Revise your letter down to 500 words or less.
- Include the full name of all group members involved, the towns they live in and their phone numbers. The phone numbers will not be published in the newspaper.
- Edit for spelling and conventions to perfection--This is absolutely necessary for publication.
- Use model pieces from previous classes to guide your work.