

In My Hands Essay| English 12

Writing Standard	Language Standard	Research Standard
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I can support claims from a text with reasons and evidence.• I can introduce argument with a thesis statement• I can provide a concluding statement or section that flows from the presented argument	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I can vary sentence length and type in my writing• I can properly use punctuation• I can properly use the correct forms of all words• I can avoid run-ons and fragments• I can use vocabulary appropriate to twelfth grade topics.• I can properly use parenthetical citations and embed quotes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• I can conduct research to support a claim demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.• I can use evidence from multiple reliable sources to support a position

Context: You will write an essay regarding our *In My Hands* essential questions.

Purpose: You will select one of the questions we have explored this unit and develop a claim using evidence and reasoning from two different current event articles of your choice.

Assignment Directions:

Select **one question** to explore. Your answer to the question will become your claim.

- Why do some people save others at the risk of their own lives?
- Are you an accomplice in a crime or wrongdoing if all you did was stay silent or inactive?
- *“All it takes for the triumph of evil is for good men to stand by and do nothing.”*

What does this mean?

- Should the United States get involved in other nation’s affairs when there are known human rights abuses?
- How do people make decisions about who belongs & who is excluded?
- What makes some people resist and others obey authority?
- Is it ever too late to seek justice?
- If you have fame, money, or power, is it your obligation to give back in order to make the world a better place?

STEPS:

1. Once you write your claim, complete the research to find **two different current events** that speak to the **same claim** above. **Provide links to your articles at the end of your essay.**
2. Open up the assignment on google classroom. Pre-write and plan your essay. Each essay will include:
 - **Abbreviated introduction** Copy down the essential question.

Thesis: State your claim (your answer to the essential question) and preview your reasons

- **Two body paragraphs** with **at least two direct quotes** in each paragraph (note: each paragraph will be about the same claim/prompt but involve a different current event and article)
 - Use the Claim Evidence Reasoning format we have used all year
(Claim, Evidence, Reasoning, Evidence, Reasoning, Closing Sentence)
- **Embed quotes and cite properly**

Introducing Quote #1 For Each Body Paragraph

(Quote #2 from the same article/ source only needs the citation)

- **Source in italics: where the article is from**

Sample of how to frame your citations: A recent article by the *Washington Post*, titled **“Technology is the Drug of Choice,”** explains the devastating effects of a culture that “values using technology more than actual face to face interaction” **(Smith)**.

- **Title of the article in quotation marks**
- **Citation: the author’s last name**

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- a free standing abbreviated (shortened) **conclusion paragraph** (1-2 sentences) to reassert the validity of your claim, expand upon your ideas, and leave the reader thinking.

3. You will submit to Google Classroom

This of course is a big daddy summative!