

Name _____

Date _____

8th Grade Research Essay Task: Problems and Solutions in Our World

Ephesians 2:10 states, “For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” We know that our world is a dark place, but what can we as Christians do to make it better? In a research essay, present information about a past or current issue in our world. Then, present a past or current solution to this issue that proves that good works can make our world more glorifying to God.

Research Topics

| PAST ISSUES | SOLUTIONS |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hurricane Katrina | How did Christians and relief groups step up to heal New Orleans? |
| 2004 Indian Ocean Earthquake and Tsunami | How did Christians and relief groups step up to heal those affected? |
| Terrorist Attack of September 11, 2001 | How did Christians, relief groups, and first responders step up to aid those in danger during 9/11 and the families of those affected by 9/11? |
| The American Slave Trade | How did men and women help end slavery, and what Christians were instrumental in seeing the slave trade end? |
| Segregation in America/Civil Rights Movement | How did men and women help bring an end to segregation, and what Christians (such as Martin Luther King) were instrumental in seeing this time of our history end? |

| CURRENT ISSUES | SOLUTIONS |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| China's Orphan Crisis | How are Christians, churches, and groups such as All God's Children International stepping up to aid in this issue? |
| America's Need for Adoption and Fostering | How are Christians, churches, and others stepping up to adopt and foster children? |
| Louisiana's Need for Adoption and Fostering | How are Christians, churches, and groups such as CrossroadsNOLA stepping up to adopt and foster children? |
| Hunger Crisis in East Africa | How are Christians, churches, and groups such as World Vision stepping up to aid in the hunger crisis in East Africa? |
| Hunger Crisis in America | How are Christians, churches, and groups such as World Vision stepping up to aid in the hunger crisis right here in America? |
| Childhood Cancer | How are Christians, medical professionals, and charity hospitals such as St. Jude's Hospital stepping up to see an end to childhood cancer? |
| Stray Animals | How can we as Christians care for God's creatures, and how are groups such as animal shelters and the ASPCA providing for animals? |
| The Homeless in America | How are Christians, churches, and others stepping up to aid the homeless in America? What can we as teens do now? |
| Bullying/Cyber-Bullying | How are groups combatting bullying/cyber-bullying? What can Christian teens do now to bring an end to bullying in their schools? |
| Social Media's Effect on Teens' Esteem | How is social media hurting teen esteem, and how can Christians reverse this trend? |
| Technology Addiction and Shortened Attention Spans | How has “screen-time” created addiction and damaged attention spans, and how can we fix this problem and prevent it? |
| Endangered Oceans | In what ways are our oceans and sealife in danger, and what can we do to take care of our earth? |

8th Grade Research Essay Task: Problems and Solutions in Our World

Step One: Gather your sources

- You need 4 credible sources.
 - Credibility: can you TRUST that this source is FACTUAL?
 - You may not use Wikipedia or any sites that don't look professional. Ask me if you are unsure about the credibility of a website.
 - On the front of the index card, write the MLA format for the website. Then, write the in-text citation for the website. I will have the format on the board.
 - On the back of the index cards, write 5 facts from the source. One of the facts should be a direct quotation.

Websites WITH an author:

Brown, Amy. "The Life Cycle of Frogs."
Discovery Education, 25 Sept. 2014,
www.discoveryeducation.com/life_cycle_frogs. Accessed 20 March 2019.

(Brown)

- Frogs go through 3 major life cycles (Brown)
- "The eggs float on water in a jelly mass or cluster" (Brown)
- Tadpoles live off of algae in the first few weeks in the water (Brown)
- Tadpoles being growing lungs at about 6 weeks of age (Brown)
- Frogs reach adulthood in 2-4 years (Brown)

Websites WITHOUT an author

(anything else they may not have, such as a publication date, just leave out, as shown below.)

"The Life Cycle of Frogs." *Discovery Education*, www.discoveryeducation.com/life_cycle_frogs. Accessed 20 March 2019.

(Brown)

- Frogs go through 3 major life cycles ("The Life Cycle of Frogs")
- "The eggs float on water in a jelly mass or cluster" ("The Life Cycle of Frogs")
- Tadpoles live off of algae in the first few weeks in the water ("The Life Cycle of Frogs")
- Tadpoles being growing lungs at about 6 weeks of age ("The Life Cycle of Frogs")
- Frogs reach adulthood in 2-4 years ("The Life Cycle of Frogs")

Research Outline and Essay Information Sheet

OUTLINE REQUIREMENTS

Outline is worth 40 points.

Before you begin your essay, an outline will help you stay organized. Create an outline in MLA format, which means...

- 12 point font, Times New Roman.
- 1 inch margins.
- Full MLA Heading.
- Title: Outline for [your topic here] Research Essay
- Your outline will be the “skeleton” of your paper. Your paper will have 5 body paragraphs: an intro, two “problem” paragraphs, a “solution” paragraph, and an conclusion.
- *Do not organize your outline or essay by source.* Instead, organize your essay by problem and solution paragraphs. This means your three body paragraphs will have a mixture of sources.
- Each body paragraph should have at least 5 facts from your index cards (between your four cards, you have 20 facts total. That allows you to leave out five facts (maybe some repeat or you discover don't fit anywhere in your essay)).

See Outline Example below!

ESSAY REQUIREMENTS

Essay is worth 120 points.

Essay Requirements: 2.5 full pages, MLA style. MLA style means...

- 12 point font, Times New Roman.
- 1 inch margins.
- Full MLA Heading.
- Title that does not have “essay” or “research” in it.
- *In-text citations for paraphrased and quoted research.*
- A Works Cited page that does NOT count toward your page count. *****Don't worry about this right now; we will have a workshop day on it. Just keep up with your index cards! You will need them for your Works Cited page!*****

Melissa Billeaud
Mrs. Billeaud
English 8
29 March 2019

Thesis: Use the orange sentence strips on the board to set up your problem/solution thesis. Include your thesis on your outline, but you don't need to write out your intro and conclusion yet.

Outline for Rainforest Destruction Research Essay

Introduction

Thesis: Although humans have destroyed our world's rainforests for their own personal gain, we can be a part of the repair of God's green earth.

Body Paragraph 1: How this problem began

- fjkdnbke, fndkgnd (Brown)
- 20% foe, mnoerndn , fne d nfdaeng nteod ("Rainforest Conservation")
- fgneniovn 260 ("Rainforest Conservation")
- fndagibne, eritony, adfnweohnerwtalnreorwt fdk naaoe 50% fna hrktnoget (Brown)
- "fndker, tgneosle" (Brown)

Bold each topic.

Body Paragraph 2: The effects of this problem

- fnekgg, fnereln ("Amazon Issues")
- fndktnetgt, fkne ("Rainforest Conservation")
- "Rneogne, netr" (Brown)
- renrkenarean, 5703 heognewto gneaoyymrea ngeahnoewig (Brown)
- drneknta, fnaekte, fenkeoranfknd, noe (Amazon Issues")

Each fact should be followed by the in-text citation you got the fact from.

Body Paragraph 3: The Solution; Why Christians Should Be Involved

- dfnwoeatensatlktnieioqnb, danreognerk ("Conservation Efforts")
- dfnkeatongamg, ernane (Brown)
- fnerandfn ("Conservation Efforts")
- "dfneatoen, deanteogneal fanteo gatnetoaeht" ("Amazon Issues")
- neogfnw edalgnoetanig, eaentogwnetlg ("Conservation Efforts")

Each body paragraph should include one direct quotation.

Conclusion