Writing Assignment 4: Illustrative Essay

Directions:
- Write a 2 ½ to 3-page (5 minimum) paragraph essay on one of the following prompts.
- Each paragraph should include a minimum of one quote per paragraph.
- The essay must include a separate works cited page
- Follow the directions carefully. The essay should be typed in 12-point font, Times New Roman, double spaced and in MLA format.

Prompt One: Civil War Military Leaders

Many of the military leaders from the North and South who played major roles in the Civil War gained their experience during the Mexican American War of 1846-1848. Write an essay in which you use specific examples of this fact from the article below.

A link can be found to the article “The Mexican American War: The Proving Ground for Future Civil War Generals” by John Waugh. This article is to be referenced in your paper and should include a minimum of 1 quote per paragraph.

http://www.historynet.com/mexican-war-the-proving-ground-for-future-american-civil-war-generals.htm

Prompt 2 Civil War Casualties

The American Civil War was an incredibly bloody and brutal conflict with hundreds of thousands of causalities on both sides. General Grant is often criticized for having large numbers of casualties due to his aggressive military campaigns. Write an essay in which you discuss if this view is accurate and include examples from the Bonekemper article in your paper.

Read the article “The Butcher’s Bill” by Edward Bonekemper (linked below.) Write an essay in which you use specific examples from the article. This article is to be referenced in your paper and should include a minimum of one quote per paragraph.


Introductory Paragraph
- Is there a hook or introductory sentence?
- Is there a transition sentence or sentences?
- Is there a clearly stated thesis statement?

Body Paragraphs
- Are there at least three well-developed body paragraphs with a minimum of 10-12 sentences?
- Is there a topic sentence at the beginning of each body paragraph?
- Are in-text citations cited properly in MLA format?
- Does each paragraph include a minimum of one quote?
- Are there at least three to four major detail sentences?
- Is there at least one minor detail sentence that further explains each of the major details?
- Is there a concluding sentence if appropriate?

**Concluding paragraph**
- Is the thesis statement restated?
- Are the main ideas from the body paragraphs restated?

**Works Cited Page**
- Is the MLA format used?

**Grammar Check list**
- Proper punctuation is used.
- Proper capitalization rules are followed (e.g. names capitalized, capitalize "I")
- Check for comma splices, sentence fragments, and run on sentences.
- The word "You" is not used in the essay.
- Check subject verb agreement.
- Correct verb tense is used.
- Subject verb agreement
- Pronoun usage

**Additional Requirements--What to turn in and do (All should be stapled together in the order listed below.)**
- Final printed copy
- Separate Works Cited page
- Copy of rough drafts
- Copy of draft stamped and review by a tutor at the Student Success Center
- Outline or web