**Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Argumentative Research Paper**

**Directions**:

You are to select one of the choices below to be the topic of your argumentative research paper. Once you choose a topic, you will read four different articles: two that agree with the topic and two that disagree with the topic. After reading the four articles, you are to pick the side that you want to write your paper from. THE SIDE YOU CHOOSE MIGHT NOT BE WHAT YOU ACTUALLY BELIEVE. Make sure you choose the side that you can write a paper from, not necessarily what you believe in. You will write a three-paragraph essay where you argue for or against your chosen topic.

**Topics:**

1. Zoos and Aquariums 6. Distracted Driving

2. College Admission Process 7. Online Education

3. Vegetarianism 8. Renewable Energy

4. Junk Food 9. School Discipline

5. Youth Sports 10. Students and Grades

**Paragraph 1 = Introductory Paragraph Needs to include**

 -unbiased introduction of claim

 -counterclaim statement

 -explanation or rebuttal of counterclaim

 -topic sentence/claim

**Paragraph 2=Body Paragraph Needs to Include:**

 -restate claim in different words

 -quote 1

 -explanation

 -quote 2

 -explanation

 -quote 3

 -explanation

 -wrap up

**Paragraph 3=Conclusion Paragraph Needs to Include:**

 -reference evidence from paragraph 2

 -synthesize (summarize) the side chosen for the topic and why it was chosen

**Works Cited Page**

 -MLA formatted works cited page

 -the only sources included should be the ones provided to you

 -do NOT go and find your own sources

**Formal Writing Reminders:**

1. Do not use first person or second person 4. Do not refer to the author by his/her first name

2. Do not use contractions 5. Capitalize proper nouns

3. Make sure to cite all outside evidence 6. Follow MLA format