

## CREATE A WORLD WAR III STORY

### Learning Objectives

- To develop a nuanced understanding of current events at a conversational level.
- To cultivate a deeper comprehension of contentious political issues and international pressures and apply this understanding to construct a compelling narrative.

Content Rules for your World War III story are as follows:

1. Your stories will be graded based on the understanding you convey regarding current events, contentious political issues, and international pressures.
  - a. You will also present your story to the class.
  - b. You are encouraged to be as creative as you can be with your stories. However, creativity (or lack thereof) will impact your grade very little.
2. Your stories must have some global conflict.
  - a. Your global conflict may or may not be armed – It's up to you.
  - b. You must integrate **at least 5** current events into your story.
    - i. Refer to the reverse side for exact details about research requirements.
  - c. Your global conflict must have its causes explained and be fully resolved.
  - d. You must have at least three fully developed and interconnected subplots with their own perspectives on this global conflict.
3. You must have a hero/villain story arc.
  - a. Your hero must confront at least one ethical dilemma during your story.
  - b. You may have your hero/villain be the same person/country/faction etc.
  - c. You are also allowed to have multiple heroes and villains in your story.
  - d. You are allowed to make yourself into a hero or a villain in your own story, provided there is a damned good reason for doing so.
4. Keep your stories **PG-13**.
  - a. You may have your villain(s) commit atrocities, but please limit yourself to providing the reader a “conversational level” of understanding about the atrocities your villains perpetrate.
  - b. We needed to flag people in the past. This process wastes enormous amounts of time during which nothing can be learned about ourselves or the world around us.
5. You will lose points by doing the following: (Which demonstrates a lack of originality)
  - a. Directly involving a nuclear war and/or exploring some doomsday scenario.  
(We will grade your story as-is but will deduct **100 points** from your total.  
You have been warned.)
  - b. Ending your World War III in a stalemate. ( **-30 Points**)
  - c. Having easily recognizable fictional characters directly participate in the events of your story. ( **-10 Points**)

Formatting and Research Requirements are as follows:

1. Formatting

- a. Minimum of 5 pages and 12-point font.
- b. You choose between 1.15, 1.5, or 2x spacing.

2. Research Requirements

- a. To earn full credit for the annotated bibliography, both of the following conditions must be met:
  - i. At least one current event integrated for each page or fraction thereof of your story.
  - ii. If you do not meet the 5-page minimum, you are still responsible for integrating 5 current events into your story.
- b. You may modify any historical events starting in 2024 if you wish. However, those will no longer count towards your research requirements.
- c. Number them throughout your story and also begin your annotations with those same numbers.
- d. Any event after (not including) the 2012 Presidential Election is fair game.

3. The Bibliography

- a. Bibliographies must be MLA and alphabetized (-20 points if not alphabetized.)
- b. Bibliographies must be annotated. (1 paragraph to describe your event and 1 paragraph to describe how your event contributes to your story)
  - i. Good bibliography annotations may help your story grade in case certain points don't express themselves the way you intended.
- c. Please use 1.15 spacing on your annotated bibliographies and add sensible spacing between paragraphs in the interest of saving paper.
- d. Emphasize organization names instead of individual authors whenever possible.

4. The In-Class Presentation

- a. In 3-7 Minutes, you are expected to summarize the following, without the use of any visual aids besides the whiteboard:
  - i. Overview of your global conflict.
  - ii. Explanation of selected current events and their relevance to your story.
  - iii. An overview of your hero(es) and villain(s).
  - iv. Discussion of ethical dilemmas faced by your hero(es).
- b. There will be a Q&A session after each presentation. You can and will be asked to justify your choices from (i) to (iv).

Story	80 points
Annotated Bibliography	30 points
<u>In-Class Presentation</u>	<u>30 points</u>
<b>TOTAL -</b>	<b>140 Points</b>

**Out – Thurs. May 17**

**Due – Tues. May 29**