

Research Inquiry Essay

Course: Composition 11 / New Media 11 / Literary Studies 11

Title: Research Inquiry Essay

Length & Timing:

- 1200-1500 words
- 23 weeks

Sample Inquiry Questions (Teacher may assign or approve):

1. "How do media portrayals of crime affect public perception and policy?"
2. "How have stories by Indigenous authors influenced conversations about reconciliation in Canada?"
3. "How does social media shape body image expectations for teens?"

Student Instructions:

1. Select an approved question.
2. Find 46 credible sources (news, academic, government, organizations).
3. Write an essay that:
 - Presents a clear thesis answering the question.
 - Groups information into well-structured sections.
 - Integrates paraphrases and quotations with in-text references.
 - Acknowledges at least two perspectives or complexities.
4. End with a conclusion that summarizes findings and implications.
5. Attach a Works Cited / References page.

Teacher Grading Criteria:

Thesis & Focus (/10)

- Clear; directly addresses question.

Research Depth (/20)

- Range and relevance of sources.

Use of Evidence & Citation (/15)

- Accurate integration and basic citation.

Organization & Coherence (/15)

Style & Conventions (/10)

Total: /70