

Formal Position Paper

Course: Composition 11

Title: Formal Position Paper

Length & Timing:

- 9001200 words
- 1.52 weeks

Prompt Options (Teacher selects ONE):

1. "Does social media do more to strengthen or to damage real community for youth in Canada today?"
2. "Is resistance necessary for meaningful social or political change?"
3. "Can stories meaningfully change peoples beliefs and actions?"

Student Instructions:

1. Choose the assigned prompt.
2. Develop a clear thesis that takes a side.
3. Support your position using:
 - At least TWO texts studied in class (novels, stories, poems, essays, or speeches).
 - Relevant real-world examples where appropriate.
4. Include:
 - Introduction with thesis.
 - 23 body paragraphs (each with one main reason and evidence).
 - One paragraph addressing a counter-argument.
 - Conclusion that reinforces your position.
5. Use formal style and cite texts in a simple, consistent way.

Teacher Grading Criteria:

Thesis & Focus (/10)

- Clear, arguable, sustained throughout.

Argument Development (/20)

- Strong reasons; fully explained.

Textual Evidence (/15)

- Specific references from at least two texts.

Organization (/10)

- Logical structure and transitions.

Style & Conventions (/10)

Total: /65