Pairwork Activity #1

1. Turn to your partner.
2. Take out your phone or laptop. Try to find an article online that has to do with religion and politics. It shouldn’t be very hard.
3. Be prepared to talk about it in class.
Madeleine Albright 1937-

- Born in Prague, Czechoslovakia
- First woman Secretary of State under Bill Clinton.
- Earned a PhD from Columbia University
- Professor of International Relations at Georgetown University
Madeleine Albright

“I’m not a theologian and I haven’t turned into a religious mystic. I’m a problem solver.”

“It’s one thing to be religious; it’s another thing to make religion your policy.”

“Religion is like a knife. You can either use it to slice bread or stick [sic] it in somebody’s back” Madeleine Albright, Dole Institute of Politics Interview, October 2013
“Faith and Diplomacy” Key Terms

- Diplomacy
- Faith
- Kinship
- Mediation
- Religion
- International relations
- Secularism
- Separation of church and state
"Faith and Diplomacy"

Persuasive Essay:

What point does Albright want you to agree with?

Diplomatic relations must
not be conducted without consideration of religion.
“Faith and Diplomacy”
Structure

◦ Introduction
  ◦ Starts with the Counterargument
  ◦ Concession: Dealing with religion is unavoidable.
  ◦ Thesis:
    ◦ [Religion is extremely important in shaping governments of the world, so diplomats need to consider religion in foreign policy and teach aspiring diplomats how to use it when dealing with other countries.]
“Faith and Diplomacy” Structure

○ Body (Two Parts)
  1. Rhetorical Device: Three stories
  2. Examples & Discussion

○ Conclusion:
  ○ Restates thesis and adds additional information.
First Story:
Pope John Paul II reunites Poland.
Message:
Polish Communists underestimate
the influence of religion on the
people and lose power.
Body: The Three Stories

Second Story:
Lebanese woman who is shot and paralyzed by a religious soldier later forgives him.

Message:
Religion is the cause of horrible atrocities in war, but it also has the inherent power to heal and help victims recover.
Body: The Three Stories

Third Story:
A religiously motivated rebellion in Uganda spawns orphans saved by a Christian Mission.

Message:
Religion can change the political landscape of a country in an instant.
Religion is the cause of horrible atrocities in war, but it also has the inherent power to heal and help victims recover.
Body: Examples & Discussion

- Argument: Religion creates kinship.
- Example: It will allow mediators to focus on similarities of opposing parties.
Body: Examples & Discussion

- Argument: Faith-Based Diplomacy works.
- Example: Jimmy Carter used it in Egypt.
Questions?
ARGUMENTS
Close your eyes
Questions?
EFFECTIVE THESIS STATEMENTS
Writing a Thesis

- Developing a good thesis is the most important part of planning your paper.
- If your thesis is no good, your paper will not only be no good as well but also hard to write.
Writing a Thesis

◦ Thesis: The point you plan to prove to your reader.
◦ How do I generate an effective thesis statement?
  ◦ Start with a single question.
  ◦ Most writing prompts can be reduced to a single question.
  ◦ If there is no question, make one. Derive a single question from what is written.
  ◦ Answer it in a sentence or two.
Structure

- What are some qualities of an effective thesis statement?
  - Provable
  - Specific
  - Takes a stand
  - Requires discussion
  - Unified main idea
Structure

- What are some qualities of an effective thesis statement?
  - Provable
    - “Polar bears are not white.”
Structure

- What are some qualities of an effective thesis statement?
  - Provable
  - Specific
    - “Polar bears are not white, their hair is actually clear.”
Structure

- What are some qualities of an effective thesis statement?
  - Provable
  - Specific
  - Takes a stand
    - “It has long been believed that Polar bears are white, which is untrue. Their hair is actually clear.”
Structure

- What are some qualities of an effective thesis statement?
  - Provable
  - Specific
  - Takes a stand
  - Requires discussion
    - “It has long been believed that Polar bears are white, which is untrue. Their hair is actually clear and their skin is black.”
Structure

- What are some qualities of an effective thesis statement?
  - Provable
  - Specific
  - Takes a stand
  - Requires discussion
  - Unified main idea
    - “It has long been believed that Polar bears are white, which is untrue; their hair is actually clear and their skin is black.” **Good**
    - “It has long been believed that Polar bears are white, which is untrue; their hair is actually clear and their skin is black and giraffes are tall.” **Bad**
Questions?
Pairwork Activity #2

1. Look at your assertion. Somewhere on your paper, turn that assertion into a thesis that matches the criteria below:

   - Provable
   - Specific
   - Takes a stand
   - Requires discussion
   - Unified main idea

2. Give your paper to someone sitting near you.

3. Ask yourself if your buddy’s paper meets the criteria above. Give appropriate feedback.
TYPICAL STRUCTURES OF THE ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY
Structure

- Why is structure important?
Structure

- Why is structure important?
  - It gives shape to the essay and makes it recognizable to others in an academic environment.
  - It allows both the writer and the reader to organize their thoughts.
Structure

What is the typical structure of an essay?
Structure

- Introduction Paragraph
  - Hook
  - Thesis

- Supporting Claim
- Supporting Claim
- Supporting Claim

- Conclusion
  - Restate Thesis
  - Any changes?
Structures of Argumentative Essays

An effective argumentative essay will have a slightly different structure than that of the typical essay.
Goal of The Argumentative Essay

- When you want to persuade your audience to agree with your personal point of view, you can write an argumentative essay.
Outline for Argumentative Essay

- Introduction
  - Hook
  - Background information
  - Thesis
- Counterargument
  - Concession
  - Rebuttal
- Claim
- Proof
- Claim
- Proof
- Conclusion
Approaches to Writing

- Compare and Contrast
- Cause and Effect
- Definition
- Exemplification
Compare and Contrast

- When you want to talk about how much better your side is than the other guy’s, you could consider writing a compare and contrast essay. This gives you control over how the reader perceives your opponent’s argument.
Compare and Contrast

- Introduction
  - Thesis
- Counterargument
  - Concession
  - Rebuttal
- Their point
- My point (Claim)
- Their point
- My point (Claim)
- Their point
- My point (Claim)
- Conclusion
Compare and Contrast

- Introduction
  - Thesis
- Counterargument
  - Concession
  - Rebuttal
- Their point
- Their point
- Their point
- Their point
- My point (claim)
- My point (claim)
- My point (claim)
- My point (claim)
- Conclusion
Cause and Effect

When you want to talk about the negative effect of your opponent’s _____ and the positive effect of yours, you can write a cause and effect essay.
Cause and Effect

- Introduction paragraph
  - Thesis (Claim)
- Counterargument
  - Concession
  - Rebuttal
- Effect
- Cause
- Cause
- Cause
- Conclusion
Cause and Effect

Introduction
- Thesis (Claim)

Counterargument
- Concession
- Rebuttal

Cause
- Effect
- Claim

Conclusion
Definition

- You can frame a definition in such a way that it is convincing to your reader. In this way, you can appear to be objective while actually influencing your reader to think something.
Definition

- Introduction
- Thesis (Claim)
- Counterargument
  - Concession
  - Rebuttal
- Subject
- Old Definition
- New Definition
- Conclusion
  - Explanation (how does it prove my point)
Exemplificative

- When you want to prove something by providing examples, you can write an exemplificative essay.
Exemplificative

¶ Introduction
  ¶ Thesis
¶ Counterargument
  ¶ Concession
  ¶ Rebuttal
¶ Claim
¶ Example
¶ Claim
¶ Example
¶ Claim
¶ Example
¶ Conclusion
Questions???
Individual Activity

1. Decide which structure fits your paper the best.
2. Draft an outline in that form.
WRITER’S WORKSHOP
Paper #2

- The prompt for Paper #2 is designed to elicit an assertion or claim to be used in writing an argumentative essay.
Freewrite

1. Take out paper prompt #2.
2. If you haven’t decided what you will write about, take a few seconds and do so now. The prompt asks you a question. Figure out what that is.
3. Pull out a sheet of paper.
4. Write. **Start with an assertion.** Don’t worry about punctuation or anything like that. Just write. Don’t stop until the time is up.
Clustering

1. Look through your freewrite for three or four statements that make claims that support your assertion.
2. Highlight or underline them.
3. Write them on a different sheet of paper in bubbles.
Clustering

Like this.

Claim

Claim

Claim
Clustering

4. Then write your assertion in the middle.

5. Connect your claims to the assertion.
Clustering

Like this.

- Claim
- Claim
- Claim
- Assertion
Clustering

6. Ask yourself some questions about your claims.
7. Write some reasons why each of your claims are true. Start thinking about where you might find this evidence.
Clustering

Like this, but for all of them.
Questions?