**WRITING AN OPINION ESSAY**

There are many issues and opinions inherent in the study of sustainable resources. In this assignment, you will demonstrate your ability to express your opinion effectively.

STEP 1: DECIDE WHAT YOU THINK

Choose your resource (Video, Article, Book) and consider what you read/watched as well as your own understandings and determine the point of view that you will support in the essay.

STEP 2: FIND YOUR SUPPORT

What are some points that support your opinion? Find at least three support items and list them here.

STEP 3: CRAFT YOUR THESIS

The thesis is where you tell readers what the essay is going to be about. It should be a clear, strong statement of the opionion yo stated in Step 1. The rest of your essay should support your thesis.

STEP 4: WRITE YOUR HOOK

The very beginning of your essay is called the hook because it “hooks” your reader’s attention. The hook should relate to the topic of your essay, but it can take many forms. It can be an anecdote (very short story), a fact, a quote or a rhetorical question.

STEP 5: SUMMARIZE THE ISSUE

Let readers know a little about the issue ou will be writing about. This is not your point of view, it’s just a brief summary of the issue .

STEP 6: START WRITING

Introduction

Open with your hook from Step 4

Write a transition sentence that relates your hook to the question

Write your summary of the issues from Step 5

Finish with your Thesis from Step 3

Body Paragraphs

Here is where you write your supporting points from step 2. For each one, write out several sentences of additional details and include at least one citation to support and strengthen your stance. Each of your supporting points will then become three separate paragraphs.

Conclusion

Use 2-3 sentences to remind your readers of your main points

For a strong final sentence, try addressing your readers directly. Ask a question or encourage your readers to thing about something or do something.

**OPINION ESSAY CHECK LIST**

/20 marks

INTRODUCTION /3

* Does the first sentence grab the readers attention?
* Does the first paragraph provide a general overview of the essay’s tiopic?
* Does the first paragraph include a thesis statement that strongly and clearly states the writers point of view. Does the thesis clue readers in as to what the essay is going to be about?

BODY PARAGRAPHS /10 (2 each)

* Do they contain a total of at least three points that support the thesis
* Do they provide details to further explain each of the supporting points?
* Are the supporting details presented in order from weakest to strongest?
* Do you have citations that support your information and/or option
* Do you acknowledge an opposing point of view and then explain why you think it isn’t strong enough to change your point of view?

CONCLUSION /3

* Does the last paragraph remind readers of the main points of the essay without going into too much detail and repeating everything?
* Is the conclusion free of new information (such as another supporting point)?
* Does the last sentence leave the readers with a strong final impression?

GENERAL /4

* Does one idea flow smoothly into the next? Do the sentence structures and lengths vary?
* Does every sentence relate to the thesis? Does everything make sense?
* Is the essay convincing?
* Are the grammar, punctuation and spelling correct?