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NAME	

PERIOD ____

PERSUASIVE ESSAY

Each of the following ideas could be discussed in depth about the novel. You will need to choose one of the topics and write a 2-3 page essay analyzing how that topic is portrayed in the novel.

Writing Topics THEME

Tris's mom says, "Human beings as a whole cannot be good for long before the bad creeps back in and poisons us again" (p.441). Do you agree or disagree? Why?

CHARACTER

Pick a character that you think is the best example of one of these attributes: selfless, peaceful, honest, intelligent, brave. Make a compelling argument for he/she being the best of that quality.

Writing Process

- (1) choose one theme
- (2) decide your opinion about that idea
- (3) think about how the novel shows the idea
- (4) sort your thoughts into topics
- (5) gather quote support for your opinion
- (6) write a thesis statement
- (7) outline your topics
- (8) write a draft
- (9) rip your draft to shreds as you reorganize and revise
- (10) repeat step 9 until the draft isn't terrible
- (11) DID YOU SKIP STEP 9?
- (12) edit the little errors
- (13) publish and turn in

Speech Option

Present your essay ideas to the class without using notes in a _____-second speech. Make eye contact with the audience and use strong vocals while convincing us of your persuasive ideas on theme, character, or setting.

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SETTING

In *Divergent*, the society has created factions to sort everyone into. Do you agree or disagree that such a system is a beneficial way to structure a society? Do you think the factions are working "toward a better society and a better world" (p.44) as they say they are? What about the structure seems to be working for Tris's society? What doesn't seem to be working at all?

Grading Rubric

(5)	Format & Grammar
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(8)	Thesis Statement
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(9)	Topic Sentences
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(5)	Discusses Opposing Viewpoints
	☐ Excellent ☐ Some ☐ Barely ☐ None
(5)	Conclusion
	☐ Strong ☐ Too short ☐ Deepen ideas/Zoom out ☐ Weak ☐ Don't end w/ question ☐ Weak last line
(5)	Depth of Analysis & Ideas
	☐ Strong ☐ Needs bigger, deeper ideas
(3)	_ Voice & Word Flow ☐ Make present tense
	☐ Engaging ☐ Choppy ☐ Too casual

ESSAY

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PERIOD

PERSUASIVE SPEECH

DIRECTIONS: Pay attention to all the students' speeches and write down a paraphrase of their **thesis idea/statement.**

NOTE: YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO TALK TO OTHER STUDENTS ABOUT THESE THESIS IDEAS. YOU ARE ON YOUR OWN!

ATTENTIVE LISTENING PRACTICE

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SPEAKER

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