

# DIVERGENT



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.

#### 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
  - ☐ Font ☐ Margins ☐ Spacing ☐ Indents ☐ Type It
  - ☐ Length ☐ Grammar ☐ Spelling ☐ Punctuation
  - ☐ Don't use you, I, me, we ☐ Page #'s in header ☐ Other
- (2) \_\_\_\_\_ Appropriate, Creative Title
  - ☐ Strong ☐ Boring ☐ Inappropriate ☐ Missing
- (3) \_\_\_\_\_ Hook
  - ☐ Strong ☐ Expand ☐ Weak ☐ Missing
  - ☐ Boring ☐ Don't talk about text yet
- (5) \_\_\_\_\_ Introduction
  - ☐ Strong ☐ Expand ☐ Choppy ☐ Needs title & author
- (8) \_\_\_\_\_ Thesis Statement
  - ☐ Strong ☐ Combine ☐ Add topics ☐ Re-word ☐ Missing
  - ☐ Needs Opinion ☐ Make parallel ☐ Off-topic
- (9) \_\_\_\_\_ Topic Sentences
  - ☐ Strong ☐ Needs Opinion ☐ Repetitive wording ☐ Fragment
  - ☐ Re-word ☐ Weak ☐ Needs 3 topics ☐ Not w/ quotes
- (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

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# Persuasive Speech

## Body Control & Performance (10)

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☐ Fidgeting

Like \_\_\_\_\_  
Um \_\_\_\_\_  
Yeah \_\_\_\_\_  
And \_\_\_\_\_

## Effective Ideas/Thoughts (20)

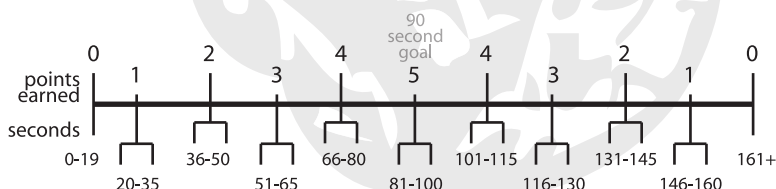
- ☐ Confusing ideas ☐ Needs more depth

## Appears well-prepared (10)

- ☐ Choppy flow of ideas ☐ Inappropriate pauses  
☐ Forgot story examples

## Timing & Organization (10)

- ☐ Weak intro ☐ Weak finale



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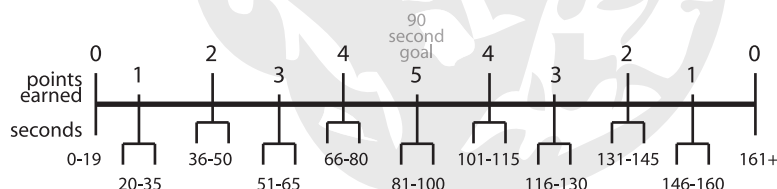
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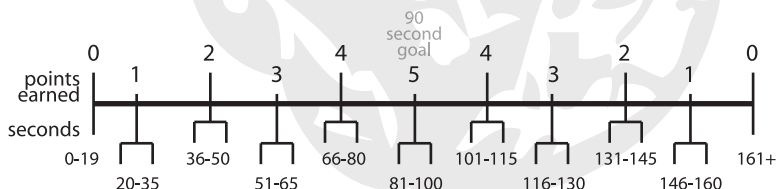
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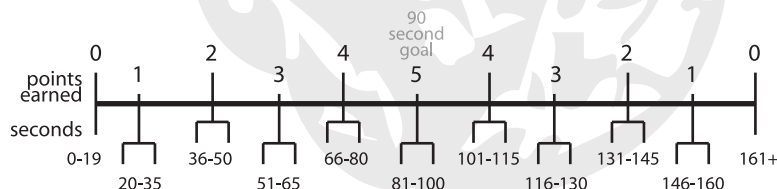
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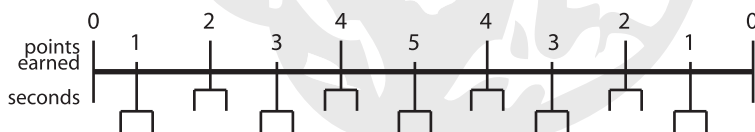
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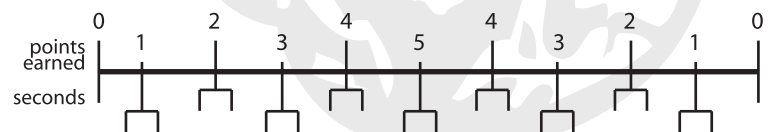
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NAME \_\_\_\_\_

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## 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

**SPEAKER**

**PARAPHRASE OF THEIR THESIS IDEA**

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