**Your task: Using the information that you collected during your research, you are to put together a fully developed, and rationally defended, argument that persuades your audience to agree with your claim.**

Your presentation of your arguments to support your claim may come in a variety of forms, so choose one that suits your strengths. ***Ways of presenting your arguments include: a speech, a recorded audio file, a debate, a persuasive article/essay, a slideshow, a Prezi, a skit, a poster, and a Rick Mercer style “rant”.***

\*If you have another way to present your claim let McDonald know and work out a deal.

In order to ensure that you have a well developed claim, **you are required to select *at least* 3 main points (arguments) that support your claim**. Each main point must then be backed up with information from your source(s) that effectively supports your claim. It is best to use information that is irrefutable (meaning it cannot be argued) such as statistics, facts, quotes from experts, examples, and logic.

Example:

My claim is: **The identity of Americans and Canadians of African descent has been negatively impacted by the constant exposure to racism from those of European descent.**

I will present my argument by: creating a slideshow and presenting it to the class

3 main points that support the claim:

1. The slave trade was what brought the vast majority of Africans to “the New World” which included North America, so these people were seen as inferior and as pieces of property by others.
2. The Jim Crow laws and lynchings severely restricted the rights and freedoms of those of African descent and controlled these people through fear. Therefore there is an engrained fear and mistrust of “whites”.
3. Historic events and living conditions throughout North America demonstrate that those of African descent are “second class citizens” when compared to those of European descent.

Facts to back up point #1:

1. according to the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Database, 12.5 million Africans were shipped to the New World and then sold as slaves (**statistic to support claim**)

2. The slaves were not considered as people with a will of their own, but merely as other people’s property. George M. Stroud wrote in *A Sketch of the Laws Relating to Slavery* “Slaves had no name, title, no heirs and can therefore make no will: whatever they acquired was their master’s…they could be sold, transferred, or pawned off as goods of personal estate.” (**Quote to support claim)**

3. Slave owners also had the right to punish their enslaved laborers – and any enslaved who broke the rules was severely punished. According to regulations from September 5, 1733 by Governor Philip Gardelin, enslaved laborers who committed theft or who encouraged others to escape were to be pinched three times with red-hot iron tongs and then hanged. If you tried to run away, you were to have your leg amputated or – if your master forgave you – get 150 lashes and lose one ear. (**Statement of regulations that support claim**)

Your plan:

My claim is:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I will present my arguments by:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

My 3 main points to support my claim:

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Facts to back up point #1:

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Facts to back up point #2:

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Facts to back up point #3:

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