Controlled Inquiry

Step 2= “What I have Learned”

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|  | INC | Meeting Expectations | Exemplary |
| Evidence of research and citations | \*no source citations are given OR only the title of the info is given    \*3 or fewer sources are discussed | \*sources are listed so that the reader can easily find the info themselves, but not all are cited in proper MLA format  (ex. sources are listed as URLs)    \*4-5 sources are discussed | \*all sources are properly cited in MLA format  (ex. Salyers, Lance. “When Breaking the Rules Is Required.” *The Huffington Post*, TheHuffingtonPost.com, 7 Dec. 2017, www.huffingtonpost.com/lance-salyers/rule-breaking-required\_b\_9556554.html. )    \*6+ or more sources of information are cited and discussed (ex. of sources= “Romeo and Juliet” by William Shakespeare, “When Breaking the Law is Required” by Lance Salyers, “The Psychology Behind Irrational Decisions” by Sara Garofalo…) |
| Discussion of specific info learned | \*info to answer the question is taken **from** research sources  i.e. Stats are given with no discussion of how to interpret the stats. The “answer” is taken from a source(s) and restated. | \* info to answer the question is taken from the sources and a discussion of **how** the info led to an “answer” is given  i.e. “After learning \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ from the source I have decided that the answer is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.” | \*info from the sources is There is evidence that finding an “answer” was a multi step, and multi-question, process.  i.e. “First I learned\_\_\_\_\_\_ which made me wonder\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.  Then I discovered\_\_\_\_\_\_ which led to\_\_\_\_\_\_.  All of this made me understand that \_\_\_\_\_\_.”    \*Connections are made between the use of research sources and “finding” an original answer  i.e.  “After reading \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ I realized that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.” |

**Controlled Inquiry Research Assignment**

Research is a major part of any inquiry project. In order to come to an “answer” to any question you must ensure that you are knowledgeable and educated about the topic.

The first formal assignment for the Structured Inquiry project is to **prove that you have done vigorous research**. This could include **watching** movies, TED Talks, documentaries, or plays; **reading** books, articles, academic studies, poems, or plays; **talking** to experts, or people who have experience in a specific area; **taking** a course or getting first hand **experience**; or any other way that allows you to learn about the topic and your question.

It is important to recognize that there are many different ways to present information so **you are required to look at a variety of different “forms” of media.**

**In order to “prove” you have learned about your topic, you will provide the following:**

1. A citations list with your resources cited in MLA format. (to make life easy…use Easybib or Bibme.)

2. A discussion of how what you learned through your research has helped you learn about the topic and contribute to an “answer” to your guiding/essential question.

a. This should include a discussion of what you learned (facts, stats, etc.), **but it should also show the “journey” you experienced during your learning** (For example what new questions came up as you learned? How did learning “A” lead to “B”? How did learning “A” and “B” lead to a better understanding of your topic?)

b. This discussion should explain how what you learned has led you toward finding an “answer” to your question.

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Sample Write up for explaining what I have learned from an article:

Article= When Breaking the Rules Is Required by Lance Salyers (Huffington Post News Website)

Salyers, Lance. “When Breaking the Rules Is Required.” *The Huffington Post*, TheHuffingtonPost.com, 7 Dec. 2017,

www.huffingtonpost.com/lance-salyers/rule-breaking-required\_b\_9556554.html.

This article was useful for me because at first I thought that there would be nothing that could convince me that it is ever OK to break the law, but after reading this article I have realized that there are some times when the law has “gray areas”. The first consideration that I had to look at is “what happens if someone needs to break the law in order to save a life?” Is speeding down the highway and weaving in and out of traffic (and putting other motorists at risk) justified if you are on the way to the hospital with a dying child in the backseat? This made me wonder about the difference between emergency vehicles (like ambulances and fire trucks) racing to save lives and a citizen doing the same thing. Sure the drivers of the emergency vehicles are likely specially trained to drive in emergency situation and they are permitted to break rules of the Highway Traffic Act, but I wondered what the difference is between an ambulance doing this as compared to a “regular citizen” doing the same thing. One of the quotes from this article that really stood out for me and helped me realize that perhaps there are times when breaking the law is necessary is “(do you want) people who will break the rules at times as they focus on accomplishing something more important, or (do you want leaders who) issue commands to automatons who will follow the rules no matter what(?)”. This article was influential in helping me understand that there really can be justified reasons for breaking the law.