

First and Last Name

ENG 100

Assignment #3: Film-Based Assignment

Due: Draft #1 posted to your webpage by 11:59 pm on 10/23 / Draft #2 posted to your webpage by final portfolio deadline (if you choose to revise this assignment and not assignment #3)

Assignment #3: *Film-Based Assignment*

Prompt: Please watch and annotate the film *Step Brothers* so you can write a problem-solution argument that answers these two questions:

1) *Problem:* How did the actions of Nancy and Robert enable Brennan and Dale to act like children well into each man's adulthood?

2) *Solution(s):* What could/should Nancy and Robert have done to stop enabling Brennan and Dale?

Here are student-generated questions that might help you to generate ideas to answer the first two questions:

- Is there a certain age where Nancy and Robert should have prohibited Brennan and Dale from relying on them for financial, emotional, and protective support?
- Does ending a marriage affect the children? Can a divorce be a positive occurrence for children?
- How can a child's actions impact a marriage?
- Should a child's wrong-doing be served with consequences?
- Is it okay to keep your inner child? Does adulthood make it impossible to maintain a youthful joy for life?
- When is it appropriate for an adult to show his/her inner child?
- Why do the brothers feel entitled for so long?
- What did the parents do to make the brother feel entitled? Do they exhibit an "indulgent" parenting style?
- Different types of parenting: what type of parenting was needed for these brothers to become functional adults?
- How can parents help their children to leave the nest?
- Should the brothers follow their dreams or conform to society's expectations for what constitutes being an adult?
- If a parent favors a child, can that affect his/her siblings?

Process Drafts: You will begin your first draft in class.

- Draft #1: 500-word source-based paper that uses informal citation of the film (to be included in midterm portfolio)
- Draft #2: 1,000-word source-based paper that uses formal citation (MLA or APA style) with at least four sources (if you choose to revise this piece and include in your final portfolio)

Purpose: To persuade.

Audience: You can choose to direct your argument to a specific character or characters in the film. Overall, your primary audience is people who do not agree with your opinion/position. Your secondary audience is your teacher and other folks who visit your website.

Style: An argumentative text that uses a conversational and appropriate tone for your audience. To be more specific, here are a few options for this assignment: you can choose to write a standard academic argumentative essay OR you can write a letter addressed to a specific character in the film OR you can create a medical document that diagnoses an issue and provides a treatment. If you wish to write in a different genre and style, please contact me. Remember to use informal citations where you provide the titles and author names of reference materials. If

you choose to write draft #2 for your final portfolio, please use either APA or MLA style to cite at least four separate sources.

Focus: Answer the two questions provided in the prompt: identify a problem and provide at least one solution. Your argument could focus on one scene in the film or one character's issues—to give two examples.

Thesis: Your thesis statement must communicate the paper's central claim and use a topic, position, and support model (TPS). The thesis statement should be the last sentence in the introduction.

Counter-argument/Rebuttal: Please provide at least one counter-argument and rebuttal.

Product: This assignment should be around 500 words for the first draft and 1,000 words for the second draft. For the written text, please format as follows: 12-point font, double-spacing. Please include an original title centered at the top of the project. We will use these criteria to evaluate your project:

- _____ Your argument is directed to a clear audience.
- _____ Your argument cites source materials—with the film serving as your primary source.
- _____ Your argument has a clear purpose: persuade.
- _____ Your argument provides a clear TPS thesis statement.
- _____ Your argument identifies a problem and provides at least one solution.
- _____ Your argument provides at least one counterargument and rebuttal.
- _____ Your argument shows signs of careful proofreading with minimal grammatical, spelling errors.