

First and Last Name

ENG 112

Formal Assignment #2: Research Project

Due Date: Draft #1 posted to your research project web page by 11:59 pm on Monday, 11.19. \*You can revise this project as often as you like until the end of the semester. Post each draft to your web page to show the revisions you've made.

### ***Formal Assignment #2: Research Project***

**Prompt:** Please compose an argument that answers this research question: Can the “three good things” gratitude process have a positive impact on my well-being?

**Research Requirements:** Your gratitude journal is one source and provides your primary data. In addition, you determine the number of additional source materials you need to complete your project.

**Rhetorical Mode:** Argumentation.

**Genre:** MLA Research Paper.

**Rhetorical Purpose:** Persuade.

**Style:** An argumentative text that uses an appropriate tone to reach your audience. Please use MLA style to cite sources.

**Audience:** Your primary audience is your instructor and classmates. Your secondary audience is people who visit your website and are not aware of “three good things” and your research project.

**Focus:** Please focus your argument on your personal experiences with gratitude and use secondary source materials to support your claims about how the “three good things” gratitude process impacted your well-being.

**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.

**Process:** Excerpted from *Greater Good in Action*: “Each day for at least one week, write down three things that went well for you that day, and provide an explanation for why they went well. It is important to create a physical record of your items by writing them down; it is not enough simply to do this exercise in your head.” For more instructions, use this link: <https://ggia.berkeley.edu/practice/three-good-things>

**Structure:** Please use these subheadings to structure your project:

- **Introduction: My Entry into Three Good Things**
  - Please include the topic context, research question, and the thesis statement.
- **Literature Review**
  - What is positive psychology?
  - What is well-being?
  - What is gratitude?
  - What research suggests gratitude improves well-being? Please reference “three good things.”
  - What research suggests gratitude doesn't improve well-being?
  - What research supports your data and experiences? This frames the conversation you will have in the findings section.
- **Findings**
  - Answer the research question. Explore the whys or why nots that support your answer.
  - What themes emerged in your primary data?
- **Conclusion**
  - Will you continue with the “three good things” gratitude process?
  - What are your main take-aways from your research project?
  - Questions for more research?

**Product:** This research project should be around 1,000 words and formatted as follows: one-inch margins, 12-point font, and double-spaced. Please include an original title centered at the top of the essay. This doesn't count as an original title: *Research Project*. We will use these criteria to evaluate your research project:

- \_\_\_\_ Your text answers the research question.
- \_\_\_\_ Your text uses four subheadings to structure the content.
- \_\_\_\_ Your text uses MLA style to format the paper and cite primary and secondary source materials.
- \_\_\_\_ Your text provides an MLA Works Cited page.
- \_\_\_\_ Your text includes primary data and themes from your gratitude journal.
- \_\_\_\_ Your text has a clear purpose: persuade.
- \_\_\_\_ Your text provides a clear TPS thesis statement.
- \_\_\_\_ Your text uses language that is appropriate and compelling for your audience (tone, style, diction).
- \_\_\_\_ Your text shows signs of careful proofreading, with minimal grammatical or spelling errors.
- \_\_\_\_ Your text is around 1,000 words.

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