

Editorials

Editorials are articles that rely on strong emotion to make a point. They always clearly choose one side of an issue. The issue is usually one that is currently inspiring argument or debate among people. Editorials are similar to persuasive essays in that they try to persuade and convince, but they are shorter and less formal in style. They rely less on facts and more on emotion to drive their arguments forward.

You will write an editorial on **ONE** of the topics below. Your editorial will have 5 short paragraphs, and a catchy or interesting title.

1. In a well written editorial discuss whether or not you agree that Macbeth is one of Shakespeare's greatest dramatic plays.
2. In a well written editorial discuss whether or not you agree that Macbeth is considered to be brave.
3. In a well written editorial discuss whether or not you agree that Lady Macbeth is the cause of Macbeth's demise.

This editorial should be approximately 250 words and should be typed. Be sure to include a writing variable sheet. Please ensure that you adhere to the rubric and editorial characteristics on the attached sheet. You will be graded on these aspects.

This is your format:

Paragraph 1: An introduction where you state the issue and your point of view about it clearly and with emotion (your thesis).

Paragraph 2: State the opposing view to yours and hit the reader immediately with strong reasons why that idea is INFERIOR to yours.

Paragraph 3: Give clear reasons for why you hold the opinion on the issue. Provide specific examples to support each point made.

Paragraph 4: Offer your solution to the problem or issue.

Paragraph 5: Conclude by restating your main ideas (thesis) and end on a positive note (or in a way that may express some hope for the future) **or** end with a statement that packs an emotional punch (hits the reader hard so that they have no choice but to agree with you.)

Rubric for an Editorial

	Out of Range 0	Below Level 1-2	At Level 3-4	Above level 5
Lead	Does not relate to topic	Needs to be more focused on topic	Focused on topic, clearly written	Focused on topic and cleverly written .
Persuasive Argument	No logical progression of information, opinion or ideas	Some logical progression of information, opinion or ideas	Logical progression of information, opinion or ideas through most of the writing	Logical progression of information, opinion or ideas is sophisticated/thorough
Research	No research included	Some research included	Well researched topic	Well researched topic with more than three sources of information
Paragraphs	Paragraphs do not contain a complete thought	Some paragraphs contain a complete thought	Most paragraphs contain a complete thought	All paragraphs contain a complete thought
Spelling	Editorial has more than five spelling errors	Editorial has three to five spelling errors	Editorial has one to three spelling errors	No spelling errors
Punctuation	Editorial contains more than five errors	Editorial has three to five errors	Editorial has one to three errors	No errors

Some things to consider:

1. If you choose to cite facts or statistics to support your main point, make sure they are accurate and documented informally within your text or more specifically on a separate piece of paper (this would include any research that has been done outside of the text itself).
2. You will be marked on the CONTENT, ORGANIZATION, STYLE and MECHANICS of your writing. CONTENT refers to your ideas and ORGANIZATION refers to how you order those ideas and move smoothly between them. STYLE refers to certain aspects of wording that are particular to the editorial form such as the use of rhetorical questions, strongly emotional language, “I statements”, sarcasm, and the use of the 1st and 2nd person within the text.

Adapted from R. Harrington and D. Machado