

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

PROMPT

Write an argumentative essay in which you take a position on whether civil disobedience (non-violent resistance) is the most effective means to create social change. Include at least 2 quotes from Thoreau's "Civil Disobedience." No other sources are required, but if you use them, cite them in MLA format.

- Paragraph 1: Introduction with thesis. Your thesis is your claim.
- Paragraph 2: Provide one reason to support your thesis (why you agree/disagree).
- Paragraph 3: Provide a counter-argument (acknowledge the opposing view).
Rebutt the counter-argument (explain why the counter-argument is incorrect).
- Paragraph 4: Conclusion. Reaffirm your thesis and leave the reader with a final thought.

FORMAT: MLA-ish

GRADE VALUE: Test Grade

RATIONALE

The purpose of this essay is to demonstrate proficiency in the following areas:

- Understanding of a thesis and basic conventions of essay writing
- Understanding of argumentation, claim, and counter-argument
- Reading comprehension of a challenging Pre-20th Century text
- Analytical skills of a text without relying heavily on outside sources
- Ability to differentiate between analysis and summary
- Background knowledge
- Following instructions (formatting, length, etc.)

FORMAT

- Typed
- Times New Roman 12 pt
- Double-spaced
- MLA Heading (No other MLA guidelines are required (no parenthetical citations, Works Cited, etc.))
- Include word count at the end of the essay
- Third person voice
- Formal academic voice (avoid contractions, slang, and informal diction)

LENGTH

350 words (word count does NOT include the heading)

DUE DATE: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH