Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*To Kill a Mockingbird*  Research Paper

**Taking a Stand**

*To Kill a Mockingbird* is a classic American novel about taking a stand against great, institutional injustice. We learn from Atticus Finch that it is important to do what is right, even if it means facing great challenges and risk to one’s own personal safety. It becomes clear that Atticus is not simply defending an innocent man; he is trying to place guilt on his entire community in hopes of change. As Atticus said, you never truly know someone until you “crawl around in his skin,” but what he also knows is that justice is more about the jury than the facts of the case. Of course, what this shows us is that people must be willing to change in order to secure justice.

**Objective:**

Write a well-developed essay that creates an argument on a person who took a stand and created a movement for justice – or who revolutionize the way a community thought and acted...

**Requirements:**

* At least three (3) credible **sources** (**must be attached to essay, as well as referred to properly in your essay**)
* **Typed** essay: 2-3 pages, **double-spaced**, 1-inch margins, 12pt. Times New Roman OR Georgia **ONLY**
* **Parenthetical citations**: incorporates **three** (3) different sources; minimum of **four** (4) citations (MLA format)
* **Works Cited Page**: MLA format

**Procedures:**

1. **Choose a topic.** Ideas: consider a person who impacted a movement that changed the world… It might help to focus on the movement first… What is a movement that brought sweeping changes? **ex.** Anti-smoking campaigns

1. **Identify your angle**. Develop a basic topic and point-of-view to focus on. **ex.** What was the stand that was taken? What did this person help to change? How did life, the community, or society change because of this?
2. **Research your topic and print out all articles**. Be certain to print from tab bar located on website. Please use the following websites to assist your research.
   * Mepham On-Line databases: Proquest, Opposing Viewpoints, etc.
3. **Review your research, highlight , and annotate information that supports your assertion** (Your point-of-view). **REMEMBER** your research must be attached to your **FINAL** draft of the assignment!
4. **Create a thesis statement**. Identify your viewpoint and give a major point(s) that explain why you believe your opinion is valid. **EXAMPLE**: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. took a stand against the segregation and injustice that existed in America. He made it his mission to create a society where all men were truly treated as equals and brought the Civil Rights Movement to victory.
5. **Draft your essay**. Your essay should be a **minimum** of five (5) paragraphs. You must include parenthetical citations (at least four (4) from three (3) different sources) in your argument. This must be cited according to MLA format.
6. **Type your Works Cited**. You must cite **ALL** of the sources that you referred to in your essay. This must be in MLA format.
7. **Review and revise**. Edit your **essay**, as well as your **Works Cited Page**. Ask your teacher(s) and your parent(s)/guardian(s) for feedback.

**Schedule & Checkpoints:**

1. **Research** will be conducted in class on \_\_\_**4/4- 4/11**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. You must print out at least **three** (3) sources that support your viewpoint. You will want to locate information that supports your viewpoint with powerful facts, quotes, opinions, and anecdotes (stories). Your **research** will be **checked** on

**Thurs. 4/10**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

2. The **TYPED rough draft of** your Works Cited Page is due on **April 25th**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Be certain to have a **minimum of three** (3) sources. – **Research will be graded too.**

1. The **TYPED rough draft** of your essay (**minimum of 2-pages with parenthetical citations**) is due on

\_\_**May 2nd**\_. You will have **ONE** class period to work on this on \_\_\_\_ **April 28th** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

4. The **FINAL DRAFT** is due on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ **May 16th** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Grading:**

1. **Research** will count as \_\_\_\_\_ **Test**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. **Late work will only receive half credit!**

2. **Rough drafts** will count as \_\_\_\_\_\_ **Quizzes**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. **Late work will only be accepted for credit ONE day after its original due date!**

3. **Final draft** will count as \_\_\_ **a Double Test** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. **Late work will be penalized with a ten point deduction from overall grade**. **REMEMBER**; you must submit your essay, research collected, and a Works Cited Page with final submission! \* Finals will be submitted in **hard copy** and **electronically.** (*TurnitIn.com)*

**Websites:**

1. **Class Shared Links:**

* + Log on to a school computer.
  + Click on *Shared folder on the desktop.*
  + *Locate and click on the Morris folder*
  + *Open the document with starter links to articles & begin.*

**2. Mepham On-Line Database:**

* + Log on to our homepage
  + Choose tab Library; scroll down to Library Resources
  + On-Line Databases- Mepham High School
  + Scroll down to [**American Government**](http://databases.abc-clio.com/Multi/)
  + Username/Password: mepham **(from home)**
  + Search ***person*** *or try* ***the movement*** for example *“Gay Rights Movement”*
  + Click on and check a sample article.
  + Print **ONLY** full-text from tab

3. **Mepham On-Line Database:**

* + Follow same format as above, except scroll down to: [**Historical New York Times**](http://portal.bigchalk.com/portalweb/login.do)
  + Username/Password: mepham
  + Search *Historical Newspapers* **or** *ProQuest* for ***your topic*** *or try* ***movement*** for example
  + Print ONLY full-text from tab

4. **Mepham On-Line Database:**

* + Follow same format as above, except scroll down to: [**Opposing Viewpoints in Context**](http://infotrac.galegroup.com/itweb/bell89784?db=OVIC) **(Gale)**
  + Username/Password: mepham
  + Search for ***your topic*** *or try* ***movement*** for example
  + Print ONLY full-text from tab

**Before you begin researching** c**onsider:**

*Which movements matter to you? What do you care about? Do you have a personal hero? Who are some of the lesser known heroes who are often overlooked? \* Select a topic by our next Seminar class.*