

██████████
Mr. Slater

W131 ██████

Argumentative Essay

27 November 2012

Metacognitive

Negative influences in Society and Social Groups, Negative consequences

When I was writing this essay, I found many things to be difficult to overcome because of the general assignment. It being an argumentative piece, made me as a writer define an audience, which was slightly new to me for this sort of topic. I choose parents because I felt like teen peer pressure is a big deal to them and they would be easier to convince. However, me being a teen myself it was hard to argue that parents should enforce more rules and make sure their children aren't doing anything they aren't supposed to. It made me feel like a hypocrite, cheering for the opposing team, but it did help me realize the struggles that parents have to overcome and the overwhelming responsibility they have. However because the audience was not someone I could really relate to, it posed many challenges.

I really like to argue in an informal way and I found myself sometimes reverting to common language and ideas but I tried to fight strongly against that. I felt like I put forth some new ideas to the topic and elaborated well with them. I liked how I offered advice for parents throughout the piece, and that was one thing that being a teen myself sort of helped. I know how teenagers act and how it is best to deal with them, therefore my advice should work well. When we began writing the eight topic sentences for the topic we choose out, I didn't have much trouble coming up with ideas or important things I wanted to cover. It was just writing the

paragraphs so each had something uniquely different about it that tripped me up. To compensate, I added extra things into different paragraphs on my last revision of the piece so each paragraph would sound new and fresh.

The order of the paragraphs was also something I had a little trouble with because there was a vast amount of body paragraphs to put in. Some had completely no relation with others so I had to carefully choose where I put them. After the organization experiment in class, I realized I needed to put some transitions in the paragraphs to keep a nice, healthy flow. It think that improved the relevance of the order greatly and helped make my paper more concrete in ideas.

I waited until the final draft to write my conclusion and introduction because I wanted Mr. Slater's help with ideas for it because I was completely stuck with what to do on my third draft. When we conferenced, he mentioned doing an anecdote in the beginning then tying it up with advice for the audience of parents on how to help their teens over come negative influences. I think this set up worked quite well with my topic of choice because it gave it a heart wrenching beginning and an instructional attribute. I like that I tried to really help the audience with my paper rather than just trying to convince them that they should realize that negative influences are affecting the lives of teens everyday. I put a personal touch on the subject and gave it life with my personal ideas.

I think I compensated for the things that I had trouble with well, to have a clean finished product in the end. I believe I deserve 3.5 in ideas (sources, incorporation or research) because I spent a lot of time acquiring good and adequate sources to make sure I could back up my argument. I did use many direct quotes but most could not be reworded without it sounding wrong and I incorporated them well in a way that it flows with the text. In the second ideas category I think I should get a 3.5 or 3 because I considered some opposing arguments but not all

of them entirely in my paper. I believe I had relevant examples and new ideas in my paragraphs. And I definitely met the page requirement with almost ten pages. I think my paper deserves a 4 in organization because I worked hard on making the paragraphs transition smoothly from topic to topic. My topic sentences are focused and have a clear connection to the thesis and my argument is clear. I gave a strong call to action for parents to help and support their children against negative influences. For style, my paper should receive a 4 because I added a lot of my own voice and rhetorical questions to it to make the paper stand out. My direct quotes flow with my ideas well and the point of view is appropriate. I tried my best to follow MLA formatting rules and correct all of my errors in conventions and spelling and I made sure my citations matched the Works Cited. Therefore, I believe I should get a 4 in presentation. My total divided by 8 would come out to be 3.75, which would be a 96.