

Using the three articles provided write an informational essay on the American Dream. Your essay should discuss what the American Dream is and explore whether or not it is a reasonable concept in which to believe. You must also present and refute an opposing claim. Your essay must be based on ideas, concepts, and information from the passage set.

Manage your time carefully so that you can

- Plan your essay
- Write your essay
- Revise and edit your essay

Your written response should be in the form of a multiparagraph essay. The rubric for this assignment is on the back of this sheet.

9-Point Essay Rubric

Score	Required Components
7-9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction moves from general to specific, shows understanding of the complexity of the topic. • Strong claim, clearly developed and arguable, analytical, answers all aspects of the prompt, and followed by and organized and clear outline of supporting reasons. • Each paragraph is properly written with a strong topic sentence that supports the claim. • Includes at least one substantial and relevant quote in each body paragraph. These quotes tie in directly with the topic sentence. • Quotes are set naturally within the narrative of the paragraphs. • Quotes are followed with in-depth warrants which analyze and interpret. They do not summarize. • Conclusion paragraph reviews the major points of the claim and supporting reasons. • Is written in 3rd person, punctuates and cites correctly, and contains few grammatical errors.
5-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction contains “empty” sentences that chatter rather than actually introduce. May be disorganized. • Contains a claim that is vague or unfocused, one that may not answer the prompt but rather addresses parts of it. Supporting reasons follow, but they are unclear and vague or they are summaries. • Topic sentences are present, but do not sufficiently support the claim. • Quotes from the work, but the evidence presented may not actually fit the point being made and/or may improperly set into the narrative of the essay. • Warrants after quotes contain light analysis, but they mostly describe or summarize. • Conclusion either reviews the claim or supporting reasons, but not both fully. • Errors in sentence structure, informal voice, and/or grammar will be more serious and detract from the essay.
2-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction may be short, incomplete, or may fail to properly introduce the material. • Claim will be simple, may hint at the prompt, but not answer or address it. • Paragraphs are simple and undeveloped, lacking strong topic sentences and may be short and lacking commentary. • Quotes are merely mentioned, are poorly chosen, or are missing. • No warrants or analysis given in body paragraphs. • Conclusion may short, incomplete, or off-topic. • Will have major spelling and/or grammar errors. May be written in 1st or 2nd person.
0-1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incomplete, inappropriate response. • Little understanding of the prompt conveyed. • Simply a summary of the book.

20 Point Assignment

20	9= 100% A
18.4	8= 92% A-
17.2	7= 86% B
16.4	6= 82% B-
15.2	5= 76% C
14.4	4= 72% C-
13.2	3= 66% D
12.4	2= 62% D-
11.2	1= 56% F
0	0= 0%