

## English 100: College Writing Argumentative Essay 1

### DIRECTIONS:

Our recent readings, along with the videos *College, Inc.* and *The Secret to Student Success*, have focused on “The Myth of Education and Empowerment.”

For our second essay, you will need to compose an argument in which you present an opinion or a belief about a **narrowed and focused** topic inspired from these videos and/or these readings. You will need to quote or paraphrase at least two of these sources.

Also, to thoroughly support your argument, you may wish to include outside research as evidence. (Though in-text citations are needed, a Works Cited page will not be necessary yet for this essay.)

### AUDIENCE:

Your audience consists of Americans that are aware of problems with our educational system. They define themselves as “moderates” and feel disenfranchised by both overly conservative and liberal ideals.

### LENGTH AND FORMAT:

Your completed essay should be at least 4 pages in length. It should be typed and double-spaced using 12-point Times New Roman. The paper should also use one-inch margins and use MLA style.

### CHECKLIST FOR YOUR COMPLETED ESSAY:

- The essay identifies key terms, definitions, and primary sources.
- The essay showcases the structural elements of a complete college essay.
- 3 main supporting points stay unified with the thesis.
- In addition, each supporting paragraph is developed sufficiently with appropriate details and reasoning.
- The essay incorporates at least two sources (readings and/or videos) from our unit.
- Citations are accurate and consistent with sources and MLA formatting.
- Transitions are used effectively to connect ideas within and between paragraphs.
- Grammatical and punctuation errors do not impede or distract the reader from understanding the writer’s intentions.
- This essay should be submitted through Canvas, where it will be automatically uploaded to [Turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com).
- The essay scores a Similarity Index of 20% or less on [Turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com).