ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY NOTES (MILITARY DRAFT):

- **Prompt**: In a multi-paragraph essay, argue for or against the draft using evidence from at least two articles as support. You must address the opposing viewpoint (if not, a 2 out of 4 is the highest score you could receive for Purpose/Focus/Organization). See side board or your rubric for descriptors of each category.

- How do you begin an essay?

**Effective hooks:**

A life of slavery, a life where freedom does not exist, a life where every man and woman is held down by shackles of fear around their throats, holding them back from speaking their own truths and opinions – how is it that the United States of American would reach this point of terror?

*Thanks, Tony!*
“American citizenship requires citizens to pay a price – not just taxes, but also their time and effort dedicated to the common good” (Wright and Bourassa).

Thanks, Madison!

The United States of America is a country founded on everyone having the unalienable rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Thanks, Bimi!

- What does the thesis statement/last sentence in introductory paragraph contain?

**Theses examples:**

Due to the difference in technological advances and military performances, it is obvious the draft is not essential to the United States military and should not be reinstated.

Thanks, Isabel!

The reinstatement of the draft is unnecessary because the U.S. already has an abundance of troops volunteering, more soldiers do not lead to a better army, and people need to be given a choice in what to do with their lives.

Thanks, Jaminee!
Effective address of opposing viewpoint:

Advocates of the draft argue that national service is essential to living in a democratic society. However, public service extends far beyond just militaristic activities. Many young people are involved in great philanthropic pursuits that benefit not only our country, but the entire world.

Thanks, Daniel M.!

Opponents claim that the idea of reinstating the draft would compel all social classes to fight for their country. The last time the draft was in place was during the Vietnam War and the draft was known as anything but unbiased. The sons of middle and upper classes would usually find ways to evade service by using money or educational deferments (Kramer and Goodwin). In doing so, they avoided being thrown in harm’s way and were able to continue living the comfortable and carefree lifestyle they were already used to. The lower class was left to accept the cards they had been given and take part in the war. …The draft was not only inhumane, but extremely biased as well.

Thanks, Lily!

Good use of anaphora:

America cannot just force people into the military. It’s unjust. It’s cruel. It’s wrong. It’s not what the United States represents.

Thanks, Tanner!
No one should be forced to go into the military. No one should be forced to risk his life if he doesn’t want to. No one should be forced to abandon his passions for the government’s harsh decisions.

*Thanks, Abrena!*

Citizens have the right to say no to something they do not want to do. Citizens have the privilege in choosing what they want to do.

*Thanks, Mackenzie!*

**Effective claim with textual support:**

There is no need for the draft because there is not a lack of soldiers in the U.S. military today. To the contrary, “whatever shortcomings the U.S. military strategy in Iraq may have uncovered, a shortage of manpower was not one of them” (Kramer and Goodwin).

*Thanks, Jeff!*
The last time the military draft was used there was not highly advanced machinery to aid soldiers in war. Today armed forces are heavily supplied with updated technology that is capable of doing what was once done by men. “…far fewer forces are required as a result of new technologies and equipment” (Kramer and Goodwin). It is understandable the need for many soldiers to fight wars back when the size of the army represented the strength of it; now that technological aid represents strength, an overpopulated military is not a necessity.

Thanks, Autum!

When using the draft, men and women will be able to not only serve their country, but “pay a price—not just taxes, but also their time and effort dedicated to the common good” (Wright and Bourassa).

Thanks, Robert!
Remember to end on a powerful note:

The military should only be comprised of individuals who meet the requirements, have a strong sense of patriotism, and a genuine drive to defend their country. This will keep America the free, strong, and independent country it is today.

Thanks, Jake!

A man’s mentality is his only weapon in the military, and when a man’s mentality doesn’t match what he is doing, there is bound to be conflict… A rushed militia is an unprepared militia, and wouldn’t be effective in a battle. The only ones who should fight a battle, are those who are willing to fight one. … The military draft is unnecessary, unneeded and uncalled for, and should be voiced as such as it has been recently. If America wants to stay free, then America should start with the freedom of choice for its citizens.

Thanks, Richard!
ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY NOTES:

- Avoid 1st person (I, we, us) and 2nd person (you)!
- Remember correct parenthetical documentation! What do we do?? Tell your table partner! Where do the quotation marks go? What belongs in parentheses? Period?

  Quote: Relatively few protests against the war in Iraq have been mounted.

  Authors: Wright and Bourassa

  “Relatively few protests against the war in Iraq have been mounted” (Wright and Bourassa).

- Word choice = use a more effective word choice (thing, good, bad, very, crazy, etc.)
- Watch antecedent/pronoun agreement (e.g. Incorrect: A person needs to volunteer for their country. OR This choice would benefit the person throughout their life.)
- Double space essays, and indent paragraphs!
ADULATION & CANDY FOR A’S OR HIGH B’S - 8-10 ON RUBRIC SCORE (DRUM ROLL PLEASE…):

**Period 5:** Daniel M., Tony, Jeff, Autum, Jared, Kayla, Spencer, Paula, Soren, Morgan L., Payton, Nathan, Joe, & Joaquin.

**Period 6:** Jake, Devyn, Bimi, Isabel, Lily, Mackenzie, Maryam, Tanner, Abrena, Zak, Madison, Richard, Jaminee, Pranav, Ryley, Cade, & Grant.
Access your essay in turnitin.com using the laptops (if using iPad, see me to help you access your comments). Mrs. Bondi’s comments are in blue (click on comment bubble); grammatical issues are in purple.

Rubric scores are in last blue comment (3 categories – see side board for descriptors = **Purpose/Focus/Organization** - 4, **Evidence** - 4, & **Conventions** – 2, and points are out of 50 (e.g. 2.5/3/2/41.5)

For J.E. #3, what was your **score in each category**? What impacted your score the most? What are your **strengths**? What are your **areas for improvement**? Get Reflection stamped once you complete it!