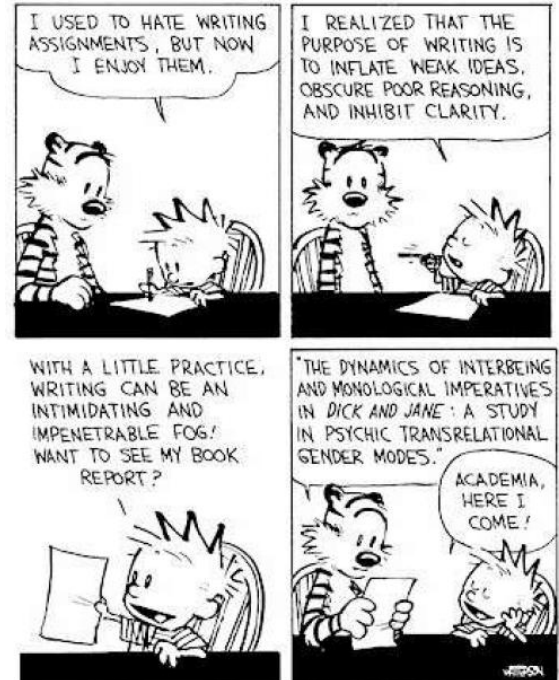


## FYI: Research Essay

- Goal: to infect the mind of the reader with your idea much like a virus! So...
- Informative v. Research –
  - Informative provides information with relatively little argument – aka Expository
  - Research paper presents an argument and supports it with factual information – hence the in-text citations! – aka argumentative
    - Should always be more than 1 source
- Language
  - Formal/professional language – No you, we, us, I; No contractions, No slang, etc.
  - Avoid using slang or idiomatic expressions in general academic writing
  - Don't add in over complicated wording to make it longer – example on a yearly basis...just say annually
- See Citations and Grammar sheet for proper formatting and MLA info
  - Should always have title-centered on page
- Introduction
  - Hook the reader
  - Present the problem, issue, or topic
  - A thesis statement that presents the argument/point of view of the essay – the thesis should be debatable
    - Should be clear and concise but also persuasively present the idea and the outline of the support
    - Claims of fact or definition: These claims argue about what the definition of something is or whether something is a settled fact. Example:
      - What some people refer to as global warming is actually nothing more than normal, long-term cycles of climate change.
    - Claims of cause and effect: These claims argue that one person, thing, or event caused another thing or event to occur. Example:
      - The popularity of SUV's in America has caused pollution to increase.
    - Claims about value: These are claims made about what something is worth, whether we value it or not, how we would rate or categorize something. Example:
      - Global warming is the most pressing challenge facing the world today.
    - Claims about solutions or policies: These are claims that argue for or against a certain solution or policy approach to a problem. Example:
      - Instead of drilling for oil in Alaska we should be focusing on ways to reduce oil consumption, such as researching renewable energy sources.
- Body Paragraphs
  - Present the research-based evidence to support your argument



- Include MLA in-text citations – example: (Bradley 143). –period goes after citation
  - If the next citation is from the same source just cite the page number – example: (275).
- When do you need to use in-text citations?
  - When quoting
  - When paraphrasing someone else's ideas
  - When using a statistic or direct fact
  - When you are using someone else's work as a theoretical framework / interpretive lens
  - When you are relying upon data collected by someone else
  - When you are relying upon opinions or interpretations articulated by someone else
  - It will strengthen your case if you support any key assertions with citations to show support amongst experts for accepting the validity of those assertions
- Quotations
  - When short (fewer than three lines of verse) quotations from poetry, mark breaks in short quotations of verse with a slash, /, at the end of each line of verse (a space should precede and follow the slash).
    - Cullen concludes, "Of all the things that happened there / That's all I remember" (11-12).
  - When citing more than four lines of prose, use the following examples:
  - Nelly Dean treats Heathcliff poorly and dehumanizes him throughout her narration:
 

They entirely refused to have it in bed with them, or even in their room, and I had no more sense, so, I put it on the landing of the stairs, hoping it would be gone on the morrow. By chance, or else attracted by hearing his voice, it crept to Mr. Earnshaw's door, and there he found it on quitting his chamber. Inquiries were made as to how it got there; I was obliged to confess, and in recompense for my cowardice and inhumanity was sent out of the house (Bronte 78).
- Conclusion: Restate your thesis and supporting evidence
- Works Cited or bibliography on a separate page