

The American Dream Essay

For this writing assignment, you will address the following prompt taken from the ACT College Entrance Exam.

Prompt:

Some individuals believe that not all people can achieve the American Dream. Those who believe this say that our culture contains too many roadblocks and obstacles, such as prejudice, poverty, and social inequality. Others believe that America is the “land of opportunity,” and that if you dream it, you can achieve it. They cite the various “rags to riches” stories in our society, as well as the numerous individuals who have stumbled upon success or have worked hard to rise to the top.

Task

Step 1: Determine your position regarding the ideas mentioned in the prompt. In other words, pick a side and argue in support of it.

Step 2: Consider everything that you viewed, read, or listened to as part of the American Dream Quest. You may also reference any texts that we have read for class.

Step 3: Create a 3X3 writing frame to use as a blueprint for your paper.

Step 4: Begin your first draft.

- Use specific reasons and examples to support your position.
- Be certain to cite the sources that you reference using parenthetical citations and a work cited page.
- Acknowledge the counter-argument and explain why it is wrong.

Step 5: Participate in peer review sessions on Tuesday, April 28th and Friday, May 1st.

Step 6: Through Google Docs, turn-in a typed final copy of your paper on Monday, May 4th.

Share it with me: jbarnett2@wcpss.net.

Requirements

- Bring your materials to class for Writer’s Studios on 4/28 and 5/1. You may need to bring hard copies if we do not have access to computers.
- Final paper must use MLA Format including Times New Roman 12pt. font.
- Final paper should be 2-4 pages plus a works cited page.
- See rubric for specific scoring details