**Assignment #1: Summarize**

The purpose of this assignment is to demonstrate that you can correctly identify and summarize a writer’s argument (or arguments) in a text. In addition, you will need to identify and discuss the rhetorical situation - this can include the stance the writer takes, the audience they may be writing for, and the purpose for writing. You will be writing two summaries of the same text: a long one (500-600 words) and a short one (no more than 150 words).

**To be considered complete, your final draft should include:**

* **Your revised long summary of the text**
* **Your revised short summary of the text**
* **Your works cited or references page**
* **Your revision note, which includes a discussion of your revisions**

**Steps for Assignment #1:**

1. With the help of your instructor, choose a text to summarize.
2. Read and annotate the text to highlight the argument. Here are some questions to consider:
   1. What is the main idea of the text? How do you know?
   2. What is the writer’s purpose for writing?
   3. What kinds of evidence does the author use?
   4. Does the author include counterarguments or evidence for an argument other than their own?
   5. How does the author organize the text?
3. Take notes on the rhetorical situation (including stance, audience, and purpose).
4. Outline or otherwise organize the information you wish to include in your summary.
5. Draft your summaries.
6. Share your summaries for feedback.
7. Revise your summaries.
8. Draft your revision note.
9. Submit your final draft.

**Format & Layout**

[Insert how you want students to format their paper. As the instructor, you can add more specificity to the prompt, so long as you do not change the scope or rigor of the assignment.]

Your final submission will be broken down into three parts (which should all be submitted in the same Word document or PDF):

* A long summary (500-600 words)
* A short summary (150 words or fewer)
* A revision note that summarizes and explains the revisions you made over the course of the project

**Due Dates**

Proposal Draft (Article Selection): **[DATE]**

First Draft**: [DATE]**

Peer Review**: [DATE]**

Final Draft: **[DATE]**

**Final Draft Submission Checklist**

* I have included a revision note as the first page of my assignment where I explain what revisions I made to my draft and why.
* I have included a long summary and a short summary on separate pages.
* I have discussed the rhetorical situation of the text I am summarizing.
* I have captured the writer's arguments and discussed their purpose for writing the text I am summarizing.
* I have only included the information necessary for my readers, keeping in mind that they may not be familiar with the text or the topic.
* I have included in-text citations and a Works Cited/Reference page.
* I have formatted my paper [as my instructor has described.]
* I have saved the document as a .pdf or .docx file for submission.