**Background:** What makes something good? What makes something great? What makes something bad? These are the questions you need to answer to be able to explain whether something is worth while doing or why something should be avoided. We evaluate things every day, but the key to giving an effective evaluation is to explain clearly the reasons

that lead you to make this evaluation.

 ***Please note: this not a pro/con essay.***

**Your Task:** In a 750 minimum (approximately 3-4 pages; 6 paragraphs total)argumentative/persuasive essay, you will evaluate something that you do or encounter on your weekend:

* A Movie
* A Book
* A CD
* A Restaurant
* A Concert
* A Performer
* A Play
* A Job
* A Boss
* A TV Program
* … or anything else you can think of

You need to evaluate your subject using **three or more separate criteria**. **A paragraph should be devoted to each criteria.**

EXAMPLE CRITERIA:

Restaurant: food, service, appearance, price

Movie: plot, acting, special effects, directing

**You also need to include a counterargument that consists of two parts:**

1. The opposing opinion (If your evaluation is negative, the counter argument would be positive.

2. Your response to the counterargument

Your essay will be evaluated on how well it meets the requirements of the assignment and on its use of specific details, clear organization, and grammatical accuracy.

**Thesis:** Your evaluation should either be positive or negative, and your opinion should be clearly stated in your thesis.

**Criteria for Success/Requirements (How I will grade you):**

* An introduction that provides context on the topic, eases the reader into your essay, and has a “hook” that grabs people’s attention
* A thesis statement or controlling idea that takes a strong stand (Follow the topic + comment model. You will be graded down if you write a list thesis or use "I think" or "I believe.")
* Transitional topic sentences that are clear, provocative, and develop your thesis and provide unity in your essay.
* Do not use the first person pronoun (I, we). Or, use it very rarely.
* Body paragraphs that follow the PIE paragraph model (4 body paragraphs, including a counterargument paragraph).
* Plenty of support from our text: Remember you must have a minimum of 4 quotes from outside research. **Two outside sources minimum.**
* For each quote, please use the quote sandwich model (Lead-in, quote, and analysis of quote) discussed in-class.
* Some analysis of all your supporting examples.
* Counter argument paragraph
* A conclusion that offers some ideas about what can be done about the situation.
* Strong sentences that are both grammatically correct and sophisticated
* Use proper MLA in-text citations and Works Cited entries.