Research Topic: Paper #1

Note: This document works hand-in-glove w/the Compare-Contrast Outline, the Pacing Guide, and the Checklist.

In order to keep this paper relevant at a beginner level, I am assigning the topic, the research, and the thread of the conversation to all students for paper #1. What I am most interested in is that you can turn this research into a viable paper with a thesis statement and supporting evidence, as per the Compare and Contrast Outline. So the structure, and your ability to adhere to it, becomes the most important part of the 1st paper; hence I have removed other challenges to writing this paper.

Note: You WILL NEED to use a minimum of 3 articles from Pew Research in your paper, and per the Checklist, you will need 5-8 total sources in your paper. Stick with data bank sources such as Pew Research and Kaiser Family Foundation, or other government and university sites, and do not use news venues as they tend to swing politically to one side or the other (hence, sources such as CNN, Fox News, and rightwingnew.com are not neutral enough for this paper).

Here’s the **link** I’m using for your 1st paper: [www.pewresearch.org](http://www.pewresearch.org)

Here’s the **topic**: Illegal Immigration **OR**Climate Change \* Sample links are below, but more research on this website should be completed by you.

* <http://www.pewhispanic.org/2018/11/27/u-s-unauthorized-immigrant-total-dips-to-lowest-level-in-a-decade/>
* <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/11/30/key-findings-about-u-s-immigrants/?scrlybrkr=61059310>
* <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/08/24/what-americans-want-to-do-about-illegal-immigration/>
* <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/07/22/unauthorized-immigrant-population-stable-for-half-a-decade/>
* <http://www.pewhispanic.org/2012/04/23/net-migration-from-mexico-falls-to-zero-and-perhaps-less/>
* <http://www.pewhispanic.org/2005/09/27/rise-peak-and-decline-trends-in-us-immigration-1992-2004/> (Interesting trend data on the side)
* <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/07/31/democratic-edge-in-hispanic-voter-registration-grows-in-florida/>
* <http://www.pewhispanic.org/2014/10/29/chapter-4-top-issues-in-this-years-election-for-hispanic-voters/>
* <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/08/24/what-americans-want-to-do-about-illegal-immigration/>
* <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/07/24/5-facts-about-illegal-immigration-in-the-u-s/>

**Climate Change/Global Warming**

* <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/05/16/most-americans-say-climate-change-affects-their-local-community-including-two-thirds-living-near-coast/>
* <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/05/14/many-republican-millennials-differ-with-older-party-members-on-climate-change-and-energy-issues/>
* <http://www.people-press.org/2018/03/01/4-race-immigration-same-sex-marriage-abortion-global-warming-gun-policy-marijuana-legalization/> (see Global Warming section)
* <http://www.pewinternet.org/2018/05/14/majorities-see-government-efforts-to-protect-the-environment-as-insufficient/>
* http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2018/01/30/more-americans-oppose-than-favor-increased-offshore-drilling/?scrlybrkr=61059310
* http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2017/03/22/how-much-does-science-knowledge-influence-peoples-views-on-climate-change-and-energy-issues/

Within each of these articles there is plenty of data for quotes and evidence. You are also welcome to explore the site for further evidence.Note that you can use an assortment of these articles, but not all are necessary for your paper. You can also do further research on this site ([www.pewresearchorg](http://www.pewresearchorg)) under the **US Politics**or **Environment**, which is under **US Politics>Topics>Energy and Environment**link and add to these articles.

Important information:

* When you write the paper, remember that long paragraphs can be distracting and cause you and the reader to lose track of the argument/claim.
* Paragraph Structure: Follow the Checklist and the Compare/Contrast Outline.
* Follow the Compare/Contrast Outline regarding the structure of the paper/paragraphs.
* Thesis Statement. A general rule of thumb is to follow a simple formula: Subject + claim + 3 supporting details = thesis statement. The subject is the topic of your essay, the claim is what you will argue about the topic, and the 3 supporting details are the reasons your claim (the argument) is valid.
* Each of the paragraphs (which can be carried across more than one paragraph) must have a topic sentence that goes back to the 3 supporting details of the thesis (the 3 sub-claims) in sequential order.
* All quotes, facts and data must have in-text citation using MLA. If you don’t know how to insert in-text citations, now is the time to learn.
* See Syllabus and WCA for paper length.