Week 1 Assignment 2

Student Name

English 1010

Instructor’s Name

Date

**Source Quality Rating Document**

*General Information about Sources:* The best sources of specialized information are not more than five years old, whereas sources of general information can be older. For example, general information about cancer that was written 20 years ago might still be accurate, whereas preferred treatments for lung cancer would be considered specialized information and should be more current since they change often. Primary sources present original research on a subject, whereas secondary sources often cite original research, statistics, or information developed by others. Secondary sources are entirely acceptable for this course and for most academic writing, but one measure of their quality is the primary source on which they are based. Sources that emphasize facts and statistics are often more reliable than those that simply provide opinion, even the opinion of an expert on the subject. There are exceptions to all of the rules stated above.

1. Provide the title of your source and the Internet link or other locating information.

 “Study: Students prefer real classrooms over virtual.”

 <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/06/11/real-classrooms-better-than-virtual/2412401/>

1. Use the Academic Writing Expectations (AWE) link to locate proper APA citation format, and practice writing a bibliographic entry for your source.

 Karambelas, D. (2013). Study: Students prefer real classrooms over virtual. *USA Today*.

 Retrieved from <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/06/11/real->

  [classrooms-better-than-virtual/2412401/](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2013/06/11/real-classrooms-better-than-virtual/2412401/)

1. Rate your source on the following points with 1 being the lowest and 5 being the highest rating:
* \_\_\_5\_\_ How current is the source?
* \_\_\_4\_\_ Does your source cite other sources as the basis for its claims? If so, how many? Of what quality do you judge the original sources to be?
* \_\_\_4\_\_ Does your source provide statistics or other facts, or is it completely or primarily expert opinion?

More than one rating of “3” or lower should provide the basis for concern about the quality of your source. In that case, you should consult your professor.

Main idea: The author argues that traditional schools are better than online schools. My response to this argument and a sample outline are below. **Please note that all ideas with your outline should be written in complete sentences.**

**Sample Outline**

Title Goes Here

Thesis Statement: In comparison to traditional schools, online schools create a better learning environment to prepare students to be successful later in life.

* + - * 1. Introduction
	1. Acquaint the reader with the topic and purpose of the paper (set up the topic and provide necessary background information).
	2. End introduction with your thesis statement

 II. Main Idea #1 – Online schools create a better learning environment due to flexibility.

A. Students can choose a schedule that allows them to continue to work either full-time or part-time.

 1. Students can continue to work and make money to pay for expenses.

 2. Earning a degree can show employers that the employee is ambitious, and this may lead to future promotions.

 B. Students have the opportunity to plan their study time around the rest of their day.

 1. Students can study and work when they are at their peak energy, whether this is early morning or late at night.

 2. Students do not have to miss out on time with their family or friends.

 III. Main Idea #2– Online schools create a better learning environment due to a more comfortable setting.

 A. There is no commuting.

* + 1. Students do not have to deal with traffic.
		2. Students do not have to struggle with finding parking spots at a university.

B. Lectures and other materials are provided electronically to students, who can then read and complete assignments from their own home or any other place they choose.

* + 1. Students focus better on their assignments because they are in comfortable surroundings.
		2. Students can concentrate more easily because they are not distracted by other students and/or classroom activity.

IV. Main Idea #3 – Students can dialogue more freely in the online environment.

1. Everyone is in an equal position in the online classroom, so students tend to start genuinely speaking to one another within the discussion board and group assignments.
	* 1. Students can express their thoughts freely, which allows them to provide feedback and receive honest, constructive feedback from others.
		2. Dialoguing more freely can add to students’ interest in the class.
	1. Within discussion boards, students can follow the class discussions and look at the questions other students have posted.
		1. Students will be able to ask themselves whether or not they know the answers to the questions. If they don’t, this is a good cue that they need to ensure they understand concepts. If they do know the answers, they can illustrate this by communicating answers to others.
		2. Students are more likely to feel comfortable answering questions within the discussion board. This can help students feel empowered, while also helping others by answering questions or dialoguing about them.

V. Concluding paragraph

* 1. Include a brief summary of the paper’s main points, but don’t simply repeat things that were in your paper. Instead, show your reader how the points you made, along with the support and examples you used, fit together.
	2. Leave your reader with a “so what” thought. What do you want to leave your reader thinking about?