**Research Paper - British Literature – 12th Grade**

The objective for this research paper is to show you the process of collecting data and compiling it into an ORIGINAL research paper. It is extremely important that you research a topic you are interested in, and one that will provide enough data to support your thesis. This is a formal paper, yet it should reflect your ideas and your research. The data you compile will point toward a thesis that is all your own. This paper should not sound like bits and pieces of data strung together. I should be able to hear your voice though the written material, as well as your ideas. The format of the paper is also important, as this is what you will be expected to produce in college and in a business environment. Refer to your *Write In Style* book for specific format details. Details count. Give yourself enough time to do this paper correctly and to leave room for major things to go wrong (like a computer exploding just as you finish typing).

**\*\*\*\*NO STUDENT WILL GRADUATE FROM LUMEN CHRISTI HIGH SCHOOL WITHOUT COMPLETING THE RESEARCH PAPER REQUIRED SENIOR YEAR\*\*\*\***

**Materials needed:**

\**Write in Style* book

\*50 3x5(only!) index cards

\*Computer/Word Processor - Rough Drafts and Final Draft MUST BE TYPED--make arrangements now to use a word processor or computer.

\*Folder to keep each stage of material within--to be turned in with final draft.

**Important Dates**

**9/15** – Topic Cards (Minimum of 2)

**9/29** – Source Cards (pp. 6-17) You must have at least one print source.

A=13+ B = 10-12 C = 7-9 D=5-7 E= 4 or fewer

**10/13**– Note Cards (pp. 18-21)

A = 35+ B = 30-34 C =25-29 D = 20-24 E= 19 or fewer

**10/20**– Outline (pp. 22-23)

**10/27**– First Draft (pp. 24-29) Reviewed by peers in class

Papers must be typed and contain 6-8 pages of text not including title page, works cited page, or bibliography.

**11/10** – Second Draft (pp. 30-35)

Must be typed in proper format

**12/1** – Final Draft (pp. 37-70)

**Final Note:**

Two final drafts must be submitted in a folder. Corrections may be made on the final copies in BLACK INK. The folder must also include: both rough drafts, outline, note cards, and source cards. Papers must be 6-8 pages of text. Title page, works cited, and bibliography do not count in the written total. Papers must be typed, 12 point, Times New Roman font, double-spaced, with margins no larger than one inch. Print in BLACK INK only.

All papers are due on 12/1. NO LATE PAPERS WILL BE ACCEPTED. No flash drives, emails, etc. will be accepted. If you are sick or otherwise unable to come to school on this day, ask a classmate or a parent to bring it to school for you.

Please review the plagiarism policy in the school handbook. The purpose of this paper is to teach students the accepted format for college research papers and to learn how to write an in-depth, lengthy report that may be required in the workplace. This is an important project. Plan enough time to allow for computer and printer malfunctions.

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**Topic:**

Identify a major moral dilemma of a character from literature. Compare and contrast the viewpoints on this issue as presented in the work and viewpoints on this issue today. Explain the Catholic viewpoint of this issue.

Students may choose novels, plays, short stories, and poems. All choices must be of high literary value as determined by the teacher.

**Example Thesis Statement:**

In one of William Shakespeare’s most famous tragedies, Hamlet is confronted with the moral dilemma of whether to take his own life in light of disastrous circumstances. This moral dilemma of how to endure life’s seemingly overwhelming difficulties is just as evident today as it was in the 15th century and has garnered major attention from a number of sources, including The Catholic Church.