Persuasive Essay- *Lord of the Flies*

What is a persuasive essay?

* An attempt to convince readers to understand and respect your ideas and to make them come to your side of the argument
* Use logic and evidence from the novel and non-fiction sources to convince your reader
* Persuasion can come in the form of **compare/contrast** (Ralph vs. Jack) and **cause and effect** (Boys follow Jack because..) or humans become evil because….
* Remember there is another side to the argument. You can help your own cause by presenting the opposing viewpoint and refuting it. Use words such as “**refute, in consideration, concede, in recognition, in understanding**”

Choose ONE question and persuade your audience (me) that you are right

1. Golding is right. Humans are born evil and we need strict laws and rules to behave.
2. Golding is wrong. Humans are born good and it is society that corrupts the noble savage.
3. Machiavelli is right. Humans are wretched creatures and one should lead with fear, not love.
4. Machiavelli is wrong. It is more effective to lead with love than fear.
5. John Greene is wrong. *Lord of the Flies* is a good book with accurate ideas.

Explain your reasoning using supporting details from *Lord of the Flies and one-two other sources*. Make sure you refute counterarguments using logical reasoning and evidence.

**Criteria:**

* **2-3 pages maximum- 1.5 spaced**
* **Must have an introduction, body, conclusion**
* Correct use of quotations – no quote bombs! **Minimum of 2-3 quotes** from *any* source.
* ~~In text citations are done in Word~~
* Correct use of academic writing as discussed in class
* Evidence from the novel and **at least** one other source. You can use the sources you found in class OR from other people based on the debate.
* Counterargument is evident. Maybe even a quote???
* ~~Works cited at the end of the essay~~
* 1.5 line spacing, 12 font, times new roman
* Outline complete before good copy is started. Done in class
* **Due \_\_\_\_\_\_ - printed.**

Notes for **Essay** Writing

Writing Rules for formal writing

* **Write in the third person** (no “I” or “you”)
* **When referring to literature, use the present tense**.
* **Have a variety of sentences such as simple to complex.**
* **Formal language at all times (no slang)**
* **No contractions** Eg. I’m, can’t, wouldn’t
* **No conversation** (This conclusion is about….)
* **You only use the long form of the title and the author in the introduction. After that, you can use the last name or one of the words in the title. Eg. To Kill a Mockingbird can be shortened to *Mockingbird*. Harper Lee can be shortened to “Lee”.**
* **What grammar have we learned in class thus far? Apply it!**
* **Use quotes when possible but do not explain its meaning with “This quote shows…”. State the meaning clearly.**
* **Never begin or end a paragraph with a quote.**
* **Avoid absolutes. Eg. Always, never, everybody**
* **ALWAYS ANSWER THE QUESTION AND REFER BACK TO YOUR THESIS!!**

Organization

* There must be a thesis statement in either the introduction OR conclusion (highlight it for reference)
* ~~Do you use transition words? Do they make sense?~~
* Are the paragraphs linked to your thesis?
* Your conclusion should not include new ideas. Pretend the reader forgot your thesis already so you have to restate it again in a new way, so the reader understands.

**References:**

<http://www.mesacc.edu/~paoih30491/intropgph.html> (how to write a persuasive essay)

<http://www.time4writing.com/writing-resources/writing-resourcespersuasive-essay/> (how to write a persuasive essay)

<https://www.simplypsychology.org/milgram.html>

[http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/u/kc4y0fvFHeBLVPkWJyLkHsalFs9OzfeW7nQHfs4G1LwC1sgsJbiVwQ0Vt3wZyZvDbzjyrfmk/#](http://channel.nationalgeographic.com/u/kc4y0fvFHeBLVPkWJyLkHsalFs9OzfeW7nQHfs4G1LwC1sgsJbiVwQ0Vt3wZyZvDbzjyrfmk/%23) (Brain Games- be sure to turn off your Adblocker)