

## In-Text Citation: English 11

Specifics: The American Dream

1. Length: **Five separate** paragraphs, typed (or written in **pen**), double-spaced.
2. Grading: The paragraphs will be evaluated in the following areas:
  - a. In-text citation: Use of at least **three** citations per paragraph. Using one article for one paragraph, cite an example to back up your commentary.
  - b. Your goal when writing is to **make a comment** about the current state of the American Dream. You may persuade, narrate, or use expository techniques to expand on one concept or theme. You are simply presenting factual information regarding the similarities and/or differences regarding the themes or mood. In order to create a paragraph with true impact, you should focus on the subtle differences that may not be as obvious to the reader. That way, you will present a paragraph that will really get the reader to think about the topic in a *new* way. Your own personal situations will make those differences stand out, but personal stories are not necessary.
  - c. Success in creating transitions: Moving from one piece of information from the text to the next will require you to make smooth transitions.
  - d. Effective organization: Come up with themes (*i.e.* hard work, College, economy, success, stress, needs versus wants, struggle, perseverance, resilience) for the paragraph, and then find facts or anecdotes in each published work.
  - e. Thesis: Include a thesis statement for added emphasis at the beginning of your paragraph.
  - f. The use of conventions of Standard English usage and the conventions of mechanics.

Articles: All focusing on one aspect of the American Dream

Due: \_\_\_\_\_ "[Rethinking the American Dream](#)" *Vanity Fair* Author: Kamp

Due: \_\_\_\_\_ "[American Dream is Elusive for New Generation](#)" *The New York Times* Author: Uchitelle

Due: \_\_\_\_\_ "[RIP, American Dream? Why It's So Hard for the Poor to Get Ahead Today](#)" *The Atlantic*

Author: O'Brien

Due: \_\_\_\_\_ "[It's Hard to Make it in America](#)" *Foreign Affairs* magazine Author: Kenworthy

Due: \_\_\_\_\_ "[Horatio Alger, RIP](#)" *National Journal* Author: Tankersley

Paragraphs: **Five** complete paragraphs (10 sentences, including thesis and concluding sentence) on the articles with themes about the American Dream. (*i.e.* white picket fence, hard work, 401K, economy, job assurance) (15 points each)

Total: 75 points