“Three Things” Essay Topic Sheet

*Pick one topic to write about. You must copy one of these, word for word, as the third sentence of your essay. I have put this instruction in italics, at the top of the page, to make it invisible to adolescent eyes.*

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were inarguably the three inventions that most changed life in the West leading up to the 21st century.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were without a doubt the most horrible misuses of power in the history of the West, resulting in needless suffering for thousands.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were undeniably the three best European monarchs.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were undeniably the three least successful European monarchs.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were beyond question the three most successful military campaigns in European history.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were absolutely the three most financially successful imported products introduced to Europeans.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are without a doubt the three most influential works of art in western history.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were undeniably the three most brutal excesses of imperialism in European history, wiping out entire cultures.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were beyond question the three most impressive buildings erected prior to the 21st century.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were without a doubt the three most important religious movements in Western history.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were absolutely the three bloodiest massacres in the history of the western world.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were undeniably the three most influential authors in the history of the western world.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were without a doubt the three most influential figures in western history.

“Three Things” Essay Instructions Sheet

*Once again, I have put this instruction in italics at the top of the sheet to make it invisible to adolescent eyes. The functional literacy component here is to see how far you can get down this sheet before you fail to follow an instruction. Essays which do not follow instructions will be returned to you to be redone until instructions are followed thoroughly.*

1. Use the writing template linked to from [www.mrmooreismyteacher.com](http://www.mrmooreismyteacher.com) to do the format (style) of your essay. Do not change any font styles or sizes, or make any other stylistic changes. It’s also linked here: <http://www.mrmooreismyteacher.com/Format/Format_2-Essay-Style.dotx>
2. The first word of your essay will be the name of the person who is saying the quote you will be using in instruction #3.
3. The first sentence of your essay will say something like:

Mark Twain said that “music is the very pulp, the heart, the spirit of life.”

The first word of your essay will be that first name. Then you will put the person’s last name. Then you’ll start with the opening quotation marks. What you’re doing is you’re finding a quotation that’s very on topic for your essay, and you’re first saying his or her name, and then quoting what s/he said, exactly, in quotation marks, all as part of the same sentence.

1. Your second sentence will claim that there are MANY important inventions that changed life in Europe (or impressive buildings or horrific crimes whatever your topic is).
2. Your third sentence will claim that \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are the most important inventions, impressive buildings, horrific crimes (or whatever your topic is) of all. Then your first paragraph will be done and you will write the next three.
3. You will write the three next paragraphs, one for each of the inventions, buildings, crimes (or whatever your topic is.) The first sentence of each of these paragraphs will start with a couple of “starter facts” about whatever it is you’ll be writing about. *No plagiarising, as this is going through Turn It In to catch plagiarized sentence bits.* Do something like:

“The CN tower was completed in 1976 and was the world's tallest free-standing structure and world's tallest tower at that time.”

1. After your first sentence, each of the three body paragraphs will then go on to include ONLY information that is relevant to arguing that the invention is one of the ones that changed like in Europe most, or was one of the most cataclysmic tragedies, horrific crimes or whatever your topic is. No random or “just cuz” information. You’re making a point. Your point is that these three “win.” No other crimes are as horrific or buildings as impressive *Each of these body paragraphs must state clearly what things (more than one) make an invention count as life-changing, a tragedy as cataclysmic, a painting as successful or a crime as horrific.* *I’ve put this part in italics to make it invisible.*
2. You will have four paragraphs when you are done this much of the essay. (An introductory paragraph, and three body paragraphs, one for each of the three things.) Add a fifth paragraph which will make a decision as to which of the three inventions changed life in the west more than the other two, which of the three crimes was the most horrific, which of the hockey games was the most important (or whatever your topic is). You will then make a case for the “winner” being more ‘whatever’ than either of the other two. Obviously you need to have more than one reason why it wins over each of the other two. Three reasons for each of the two “losers” would be ideal to show they lose out to the winner.
3. You will now use the introductory paragraph to make a sixth, concluding, paragraph. If your essay has only five paragraphs, it will be returned to you to finish. Copy and past your first paragraph again, so your concluding paragraph is completely identical to your introductory paragraph. Then move your “quotation” sentence, including who said the quotation, to the end of this concluding paragraph. Then replace the quotation with another (second) quotation on the same topic, but by a different (second) person. Then reword the whole concluding paragraph slightly so it sounds less like the introductory paragraph.
4. As a separate page that is part of the same document, but has a different page number in the upper right hand corner than the page your concluding paragraph is on, do a Works Cited page. It will say “Works Cited” at the top and will list all research sources used, with a minimum of three per body paragraph (that’s 9 in total). To be most impressive, and if you’re looking for a mark in the 4s, run your URLs through this to get standard APA citation format: <http://www.citationmachine.net/apa/cite-a-website>
5. Before you submit the essay to <http://www.turnitin.com/> , get the Formal Writing Guide <http://www.mrmooreismyteacher.com/CHC2D1/Docs/Formal%20Writing%20Guide.docx> from the website, and go through and adapt the wording of your essay to follow it exactly.