Conflict. Disagreement. Argument. Tension. Controversy. Whatever term you choose to use, the fact remains it surrounds us. In our current society of war, terrorism, economic competition, and the desire to be the best, we can’t help but encounter conflict around every corner. No matter how big or small it may seem in your own life, conflicts are what keep human beings going.

As the debate over education continues, it is my job as your teacher to prepare you for the real world. One way to do this is by encouraging you to become a worldly scholar. We are going to embark on a journey during this semester that will have you scouring the landscape for the juiciest controversy you can unearth. Each week you will find an article and write a précis showing your understanding of its rhetorical purpose. You will be in charge of revealing your findings to the rest of the class. Be sure you are prepared to answer questions and keep the debate going.

Your findings from your dig for juicy controversy should meet all of the following guidelines:

- come from a reputable source (newspaper, magazine, etc.)
- be no fewer than 300 words
- be on a current (no older than three months) local, state, national, or international controversy (not just an event!)
- consider either a published letter to the editor or opinions article

In order to diversify our discussion, you must choose your article from one of the following categories. You may not repeat categories (i.e. you may only submit one technology article per six weeks, etc.).

Politics
Education
Arts
Choice
Health
Technology

Continue to the back of this page for further instructions.
Once you have uncovered your juicy controversy for the week, you should complete each of the following activities:

- Read your article for the following:
  - Argument, main idea, stylistic devices, diction, persuasion
- On a Google doc provide the appropriate MLA heading
- Title your paper (and your Google Doc): Current Controversy #__: (PEACH-T)
  - Example: Current Controversy #1: Health
- Create a rhetorical précis for your article following the model below
  - Sentence #1: Name of author, [optional: a phrase describing the author], the genre and title of the work, a rhetorically accurate verb (such as “assert,” “argue,” “suggest,” “imply,” “claim,”), and a THAT clause containing the major assertion (thesis statement) of the work
  - Sentence #2: An explanation of how the author develops and/or supports the thesis usually in chronological order
  - Sentence #3: A statement of the author’s apparent purpose, followed by an “in order” phrase
  - Sentence #4: A description of the intended audience and/or the relationship the author establishes with the audience
- Copy and paste your article into your Google doc and at the bottom of the article include your URL

You will upload the completed Google doc to Schoology. Watch the calendar for official dates. Be prepared to share, discuss, and analyze these articles. You should have full knowledge of the argument and opinion presented in the article!

Each CCF submission is worth five points. Each point is all or nothing. There will be no partial credit given, so please follow the format provided to ensure full points.

- Article (1 point)
- Précis Sentence #1 (1 point)
- Précis Sentence #2 (1 point)
- Précis Sentence #3 (1 point)
- Précis Sentence #4 (1 point)