Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

English 10R Research Paper

In *Lord of the Flies*, William Golding addresses the existence of evil within humans. Does he have a point? How can good and evil be defined? Does your research prove or disprove Golding's belief that, in society, evil triumphs over good?

**You will base your research upon the following question: There has always been a conflict between good and evil in the world. What is the relationship between them?**

|  |
| --- |
| Your Task:   * Provide a working definition of the relationship between good and evil in society. * Research one aspect of good and evil in society, collecting documents that show the relationship between good and evil in our lives. * Use your research to develop your own philosophy on "good versus evil," ultimately talking a stand on one or the other. * Create a works cited page to document your sources (at least THREE sources—one of which is non-internet based). |

**Process Steps:**

**Step 1: Definitions (5 points)**

Define "good" and "evil" according to what they mean to you. Do not use a dictionary or thesaurus; instead, identify a working definition for each. Be as thorough as possible.

**Step 2: Position (5 points)**

Using your definitions of good and evil, consider the following:

-What is the relationship between good and evil in society? Why does this relationship exist? Provide specific examples to support your opinion.

Also consider:

-Is one more dominant than the other, or are they equal in society? What causes this?

-Does one lead to the other? Which leads to which and why?

-Do most situations involve both, or can a situation be purely good or purely evil?

-Which one do people pay more attention to and why?

**Step 3: Research (15 points)**

Choose and research one situation in the world that relates to your opinions from step two. For your chosen situation you must:

-locate and use at least three sources of information, recording all bibliographical information. \*\*Be sure to responsibly print out or photocopy all of your resources\*\*

-identify:

-any events which led up to the situation

-the events that happened which relate to your definitions of good and evil

-the outcome of the situation

-discuss the relationship between good and evil, while providing evidence to support your belief.

**\*You will be turning in all of your sources with annotations for a grade\***

**Step 4: Annotated Bibliography (30 points)**

For each of your sources, complete an annotated bibliography. An annotated bibliography is a summary and evaluation of the source. In this portion of the assignment, you should briefly summarize what the article is about, assess how helpful/useful the information is, and reflect on how you will use that information in your research paper. In addition to the paragraph of information, your annotated bibliography should include the bibliographic information of the source in MLA format.

**Step 5: Note-Cards (20 points)**

This portion of the research project will help you organize the information which you have gathered and determine how useful it is to you.

Read all the research you have copied or printed, using highlighters and colored pens to annotate. You are going to make a note-card for every important piece of information you read. You are not necessarily going to use all of this information, but this will allow for you to organize key events and facts. Each note-card should be labeled with a source symbol (see handout). Use quotation marks for specific quotes, or paraphrase key information. If you are unable to answer any of the questions below, you have more research to do!

**Why:** What is the history behind the situation?

**When/Where:** When did these events occur? Where?

**What:** What is the timeline of events? What was the outcome of the situation? Do you have

statistics about the events or outcome?

**Who:** Are you able to name the major players in the course of events? Do you have direct

quotes from people who were involved in the situation?

**Step 6: Thesis (5 points)**

At the end of this assignment, you are going to have to construct an essay in which you develop a position on the existence of good and evil using the research you have found. Before writing your essay you will need to develop a thesis statement. Your thesis statement should be a one to two sentence response to the question below:

There has always been a conflict between good and evil in the world. What is the relationship between them?

**Step 7: Outline (10 points)**

Create an outline for your essay, using your note-cards. Include topic sentences and examples which you will include in your essay. Refer to the samples from class.

**Step 8: Works Cited (10 points)**

Now that you know the sources you will be using, create a Works Cite page. Refer to the notes and models from class.

**Step 9: Essay (50 points)**

Using your thesis, note-cards, and outline, type your essay. You should include direct quotes and paraphrased information. You must have in-text citations. Remember, you essay needs:

-an introduction with a thesis statement.

-body paragraphs including the information you have researched.

-in-text citations to support your thesis.

-a conclusion.

-a works cited page.

**Steps 10/11: Visual and Presentation: 30 points**

Create a visual (PowerPoint, poster, etc.) to present to the class. Your visual should include your position on the existence of good and evil within society. Additionally, you should include pictures, information, statistics, quotes, articles, etc. to add to the presentation.

You will be responsible for giving a 3-5 minute presentation to your classmates. During this presentation, you will share your visual and research findings.

**\*\*Warning: Plagiarized work will result in a ZERO for ALL parties concerned! Plagiarism is claiming credit for work that is not your own. We will discuss this further in class.\*\***

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**English 10R Research Project**

**Below is a broad list of topics to help give you ideas for your research. You are not limited to these categories. Your selection of a topic should be based on your definitions of good and evil and the relationship between them.**

* **Miracles**
* **Good Samaritans**
* **Charity**
* **Adoption**
* **Missions**
* **Social Movements**
* **Education**
* **Healing**
* **Volunteer Organizations**
* **Acts of genocide**
* **Cults**
* **School violence**
* **Riots**
* **Violation of Human Rights**
* **Pollution**
* **Dictatorship**
* **Terrorism**
* **Drug/Alcohol Abuse**
* **Abuse/Assault**
* **Kidnapping**

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**English 10R Research Project**

Use the score sheet below to track your progress throughout the Research Project. The following steps will count as a "research grade" for the fourth quarter.

Step 1: Definitions: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5

Step 2: Position: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5

Step 3: Research: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/15

Step 4: Annotated Bibliography: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/30

Step 5: Note-Cards: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/20

Step 6: Thesis: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/5

Step 7: Outline: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10

Step 8: Works Cited: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/10

**TOTAL PROCESS SCORE:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/100

Step 9: **RESEARCH PAPER SCORE:** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/50

The following steps will count as a "participation grade" for the fourth quarter.

Steps 10 and 11: Visual and Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/30

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ /5**

**Step 1: Definitions (5 points)**

Define "good" and "evil" according to what they mean to you. Do not use a dictionary or thesaurus; instead, identify a working definition for each. Be as thorough as possible.

Good-

Evil-

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ /5**

**Step 1: Definitions (5 points)**

Define "good" and "evil" according to what they mean to you. Do not use a dictionary or thesaurus; instead, identify a working definition for each. Be as thorough as possible.

Good-

Evil-

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ /5**

**Step 2: Position (5 points)**

Using your definitions of good and evil, consider the following:

-What is the relationship between good and evil in society? Why does this relationship exist? Provide specific examples to support your opinion.

Also consider:

-Is one more dominant than the other, or are they equal in society? What causes this?

-Does one lead to the other? Which leads to which and why?

-Do most situations involve both, or can a situation be purely good or

purely evil?

-Which one do people pay more attention to and why?

**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Step 4—Annotated Bibliography**

A **bibliography** is a list of sources (books, journals, Web sites, periodicals, etc.) one has used for researching a topic. Bibliographies are sometimes called "References" or "Works Cited" depending on the style format you are using. A bibliography usually just includes the bibliographic information (i.e., the author, title, publisher, etc.). An **annotation** is a summary and/or evaluation. Therefore, an **annotated bibliography** includes a summary and/or evaluation of each of the sources. Depending on your project or the assignment, your annotations may do one or more of the following.

**In your annotated bibliography you should:**- **Summarize**: Some annotations merely summarize the source. What are the main arguments? What is the point of this book or article? What topics are covered? If someone asked what this article/book is about, what would you say? The length of your annotations will determine how detailed your summary is.   
- **Assess**: After summarizing a source, it may be helpful to evaluate it. Is it a useful source? How does it compare with other sources in your bibliography? Is the information reliable? Is this source biased or objective? What is the goal of this source?   
- **Reflect**: Once you've summarized and assessed a source, you need to ask how it fits into your research. Was this source helpful to you? How does it help you shape your argument? How can you use this source in your research project? Has it changed how you think about your topic?

**Why an annotated bibliography?**- Just collecting sources for a bibliography is useful, but when you have to write annotations for each source, you're forced to read each source more carefully. You begin to read more critically instead of just collecting information.  
-To help you formulate a thesis: Every good research paper is an argument. The purpose of research is to state and support a thesis. So a very important part of research is developing a thesis that is debatable, interesting, and current. Writing an annotated bibliography can help you gain a good perspective on what is being said about your topic. By reading and responding to a variety of sources on a topic, you'll start to see what the issues are, what people are arguing about, and you'll then be able to develop your own point of view.

**What Format?  
-The bibliographic information**: The bibliographic information of the source (the title, author, publisher, date, etc.) is written in either MLA format. **-The annotations:** The annotations for each source are written in paragraph form. In each explanation, you will need to summarize, assess, and reflect on the article you are using.

*Information adapted from: http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/614/01/*

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**Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Step 6—Thesis**

**Thesis Writing…**

**A thesis statement is an assertion, not a statement of fact or an observation.**

* **Fact or observation:** People use many lawn chemicals.
* **Thesis:** People are poisoning the environment with chemicals merely to keep their lawns clean.

**A thesis takes a stand rather than announces a subject.**

* **Announcement:** The thesis of this paper is the difficulty of solving our environmental problems.
* **Thesis:** Solving our environmental problems is more difficult than many environmentalists believe.

**A thesis statement is narrow rather than broad. If a thesis statement is sufficiently narrow, it can be fully supported.**

* **Broad:** The American steel industry has many problems.
* **Narrow:** The primary problem in the American steel industry is the lack of funds to renovate outdated plants and equipment.

**A thesis statement is specific rather than vague or general.**

* **Vague:** Hemingway's war stories are very good.
* **Specific:** Hemingway's stories helped create a new prose style by employing extensive dialogue, shorter sentences, and strong Anglo-Saxon words.

**Review the following and determine if they are strong thesis statements. If they are not strong, identify what needs to be done in order for the statement to be considered strong.**

1. Stalin was a powerful leader in the Soviet Union during World War II.
2. Many people helped the victims of Hurricane Katrina.
3. During a time of devastation and cruelty, George Wanton's selfless acts of mercy provided the necessary hope to the victims of World War II.

Your Topic and Thesis:

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Thesis:

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