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English IV-1st period

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Title

Subtitle:

1. Introduction
2. Problem-
3. Advantages of proposal

1.

2.

1. Proposal
2. Direct Statement of Proposal-
3. Details

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

1. Logical Reasons
2. Firstly,
3. Secondly,
4. Thirdly,
5. Fourthly,
6. Fifthly,
7. Sixthly,
8. Possible Objections
9. (Italicized)
10. (Italicized)
11. Conclusion

A.

B.

1. Meta-cognitive Reflection

**Your Own Modest Proposal Five-Paragraph Essay Outline Assignment**

**Assignment:** After reading Jonathan Swift’s “A Modest Proposal,” write your own half-serious satirical solution outline to a problem in modern American society.

**Some specifics:** Your final product should be at least five paragraph essay outline. It should have a structure similar to Swift’s essay, should contain a similarly sarcastic tone, and should implement **ALL three major satirical techniques: exaggeration, incongruity, and parody.**

**Process:**

1. Read and analyze Jonathan Swift’s “A Modest Proposal.” Note the **structure** **and tone** of the essay, as well as Swift’s use of satirical techniques: **exaggeration, incongruity, and parody.**
2. Brainstorm societal problems that you might want to address (i.e. the famine in Ireland, which Swift addresses). Your problem should be something that impacts **our nation’s** **society as a whole**, so **don’t** pick something that only applies to Medford High School or Medford.
3. Create an outline. You may feel free to add additional paragraphs where appropriate, but **your outline should follow the basic model below**:
   1. **25-30 word subtitle.** Your essay should be called “A Modest Proposal,” but the subtitle should flesh out what societal problem you are trying to solve (without giving away your “shocking” element). (Swift’s full title is “A Modest Proposal for Preventing the Children of Poor People in Ireland from Being a Burden to Their Parents or Country, and for Making Them Beneficial to the Public.” Shoot for something like that.)
   2. **Paragraph 1:** A clear first paragraph that contains an **indelible image** of your societal problem. (Swift’s image in his first paragraph is that of the mother with six children dressed in rags begging for alms. Try to include an image of your problem that elicits the readers’ sympathies in a similar way.)
   3. **Paragraph 2:** A paragraph description of your **shocking solution**. (This is like the paragraph in which Swift talks “delicious and nourishing” babies.)
   4. **Paragraph 3:** A list of **six clearly labeled “logical reasons”** for why your solution would work. (Label your sentences “firstly,” “secondly,” “thirdly,” as Swift does.)
   5. **Paragraph 4:** An **italicized** paragraph describing your response to the **opposition’s argument**. (Note Swift’s italicized paragraphs for guidance on this.)
   6. **Paragraph 5:** **Conclusion.**
4. Write a brief (one-paragraph) **meta-cognitive reflection** about how you came up with your ideas and modeled your essay after Swift’s.