**Persuasive Writing – *Spies Around Us* Unit**

**Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Due – December 21**

**Purpose**: to discuss and/or debate ideas developing an argument to convince the reader to agree with the writer’s opinion. Topic of persuasive piece can be related to any observation from our reading in class. We will brainstorm ideas in class.

**Criteria:**

* Provide an overview of the topic
* Thesis statement of the writer’s position
* Provide 3 or more arguments that have supporting statements
* Arguments are drawn from facts or personal experience
* Begin to identify other points of view or counter-arguments
* Conclusion includes a statement to reinforce or summarize position
* Uses persuasive devices (quotes, examples, anecdotes, irony, wit, humour)
* Uses linking words/phrases (because, however, also, therefore)
* Written in the present tense
* Use first person singular or plural (I, we)
* Use persuasive adjectives (most, must, strongly)
* Technical terms which are often verbs changed into nouns (new-comers become immigrants)

**Presentation Requirements:**

* Typed (12 point font - double spaced) **or** your neatest handwritten (pen - double spaced)
* Around 2 pages in length

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|  | **Appropriate criteria** |
| **Content and Ideas** | * Has a clear purpose (thesis), makes sense, and emphasizes important ideas
* Has a narrow topic and is understandable
* Contains accurate information
* Expresses and justifies a viewpoint, and shows a clear sense of audience
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| **Organization** | * Uses text structures appropriate to form
* Uses connecting words to combine ideas, indicate comparisons, and show sequence
* Features a strong lead and satisfying conclusion
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| **Sentence Structure and Fluency, Word Choice and Voice Traits** | * Reads smoothly and demonstrates strategic paragraphing
* Shows a clear sense of audience
* Tone and formal language are appropriate to purpose and audience
* Contains effectively used content words
* Uses a variety of sentence types, lengths, and structures
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| **Conventions** | * Proper use of punctuation and capitalization
* Proper choice of vocabulary and correct spelling
* Suitable presentation
* Text features enhance clarity
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