**English 10 Name:**

**Mr. Fisher**

**Research Paper Assignment**

**"The Art of Protest"**

**Introduction:** Mr. Fisher is just an English teacher, but based on the little he has seen for himself or read about in books, magazines, and websites, he has come to a conclusion: every single country in the world has jerks. They’re everywhere! Even the tiny Republic of Palau, with a population of just 20,956, has at least 3,000 jerks. Well, at least that’s his guess. Anyway, the best part about the world is that there are good people who risk their own safety and happiness to fight these jerks when they get too powerful. We call this process a “protest.” Often, when we think of protests, we think of people with signs marching in the streets. However, protests can occur in other, more subtle ways. For your research paper, you are going to be studying one of these methods: protest art.

**Assignment:** Find an artist who created a piece of protest art. Then, research the issue(s) that the piece is protesting, the piece itself, and its creator. Finally, write a research-based thesis essay in which you analyze how the piece of art worked as an act of protest. If you have time, find a way to make a pencil float in mid-air.

**Who are considered artists?** Painters, sculptors, visual artists, novelists, poets, musicians, film writers and directors, and others of which I have not yet thought.

**Who are not considered artists?** Documentary producers/directors and journalists.

**Country Bonus:** If you choose an artist from your previously-selected international exploration country, you will earn an additional **20 Bonus Points!**

**Other Choices:** If you choose an American artist, you must first make sure no one else has selected that artist in your class. I will have a sign-up sheet available in the front of the room. If you choose a non-American artist from a country that someone has already claimed, you must first make sure that he or she has chosen a different artist.

**Requirements:**

1) You should choose **only one** piece of art/writing/music/film on which to focus your research and writing.

2) You must include information on the art, the artist, the time period, and the issues that are being protested.

3) You must write a **six-paragraph (or six-part)** essay.

4) You must include a **works cited page** with at least **FIVE (5) entries**. You must write the works cited page according to MLA format. ***Include web addresses in citations when they are relevant (sources on the web).* A PAPER SUBMITTED WITHOUT A WORKS CITED WILL RECEIVE, AT BEST, AN AUTOMATIC 110/200.**

5) Overall, there must be at least **FIVE (5) quotations** in this paper. Unquoted citations, though necessary, do not count as quotations.

6) Your paper and all citations must follow MLA style.

7) Organize your paper according to the following outline:

Paragraph/Part #1: General introduction

Paragraph/Part #2: Relevant Biographical information on the artist

Paragraph/Part #3: Information about the issues the artist is protesting

Paragraph/Part #4: Information about and description of the work of protest art

Paragraph/Part #5: Analysis of technique (Explanation of *how* the work protested the issue)

Paragraph/Part #6: Conclusion: What impact, if any, did this protest have?

8) The last sentence of your introduction should be your thesis, which should include the name of the artist, the name of the work of art, and the issue that is being protested.

9). **All** tear rules are in effect!

10) You may NOT cite the following websites: Wikipedia, Songfacts, Songmeanings and Artistfacts. If you use Genius.com, pay attention to the source of the information that you find. “Google” is a search engine and not a source (so don’t cite it either).You should use only reliable sources: Dave’s Basement Blog is not reliable, nor is Dave’s Facebook Page. Furthermore, if Dave makes a post on a message board, that is not reliable either.

**Essay Rubric:**

Failing Poor Flawed Good Nearly Perfect

Organization 1 2 3 4 5

Use of Quotations 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Introduction 1 2 3 4 5

Artist Information 1 2 3 4 5

Protest Movement 1 2 3 4 5

Information

Artwork Information 1 2 3 4 5

Analysis of Techniques 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Conclusion 1 2 3 4 5

Works Cited/MLA 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Quality of Sources 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Grammar, Punctuation 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

and Syntax

Grade: /80 🡪 /160

**Due Dates:**

RD: Paragraphs #1 and 2 Friday, January 5 12 points

RD: Paragraphs #3 and 4 Wednesday, January 17 12 points

RD: Paragraphs #5, 6 and WC Wednesday, January 31 16 points  
FINAL DRAFT Monday, February 12 on turnitin.com 160 points

\*\*Overall score is out of 200.

NOTE #1: In order to get credit for your rough drafts, you must SHOW ME A COMPLETED COPY in the beginning of the period that they are due. You cannot get full credit otherwise. In other words, a few scribbled sentences will not be enough.

NOTE #2: There will be no extensions for rough drafts. If you are not here on the day the rough draft is due, it *must* be due to an excused absence in order to get credit. Even then, it must be handed in within 48 hours of your absence to earn credit.

**PLAGIARISM**

Plagiarism is using another person’s thoughts, ideas, words, or work and claiming it as your own. **Any person caught plagiarizing on this assignment will earn a zero; further disciplinary action may also be taken.** In order to avoid plagiarism, you should use parenthetical documentation to cite any ideas that are not common knowledge and that you received from an outside source. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to

* Using someone else’s exact words without citing the source
* Paraphrasing someone else’s exact words without citing the source
* Attributing a citation to the wrong source
* Soliciting another person to write your paper or a piece of your paper
* Using a paper or section of a paper written by someone else
* Reusing a paper that you had written for a different class
* Using the same notes as another student
* Photocopying another student's paper, whiting out his or her name, and replacing it with your own.

Remember, one of the goals of research is to gather and analyze for yourself the ideas of the best scholars on your topic. Citing other scholars gives your paper credibility and is the sign of a mature writer. If you are concerned about mistakenly committing plagiarism, feel free to check with me.

**A Word or 200 about Punctuation, Direct Quotes and Citations with Parenthetical Documentation…**

**1. Quotation ending in a comma or a period**

Drop the comma or period, close quotes, open parentheses, citation, close parentheses, end with period

“Bob Dylan hugged Mr. Fisher, and called him his biggest fan” (Adams 34).

**2. Quotation ending in a question mark or exclamation point**

Keep the question mark or exclamation point, close quotes, open parentheses, citation, close parentheses, end with period

“Dylan then invited Mr. Fisher to go on tour with him!” (Johnson 26).

**3. Quotation which includes dialogue**

Begin the quotation as usual, begin dialogue with “half-quotation marks” or apostrophes, close entire quotation with regular punctuation

“Mr. Fisher responded, ‘Oh, Bob, I couldn’t take that much time away from my students.’ Instead, Mr. Fisher asked Dylan to dedicate his next album to him” (Adams 78).

**4. A citation or quotation does not end the sentence**

Punctuate as usual but save citation for the end of the sentence

Dylan called his next song “the best song I had ever written” and dedicated it to Mr. Fisher (Twill 23).

**5. Several consecutive sentences contain quotations or paraphrased information that needs to be cited**

Wait until the last sentence that contains borrowed information and include the citation at the end of that sentence.