11th Grade Synthesis Essay

Writing Prompt and Task: Write a 2-3 page essay that examines the following question:

Edmund Burke, an author, orator, political theorist, and philosopher from the late 1700s, once said “the only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.” In a well organized, carefully constructed essay, defend, refute, or qualify this quote. Use the sources below to support your primary and secondary claims:

- **An Ordinary Man** Autobiography by Paul Rusesabagina with Tom Zoellner
- **Deogratias: A Tale of Rwanda** Graphic novel by by Jean-Philippe Stassen
- **It’s Not Enough to Call It Genocide** Op-ed from Time by Sam Power

Format:

- MLA header
- 2-3 pages
- 3rd person voice
- Typed, 12 font TNR or AN
- Double spaced (in accordance with MLA formatting)
- MLA citation for at least two specific examples from two sources (see above list).
- Digital copy provided with your printed copy.

Complete the work-up below – this is worth points. Use specific references from your argument packet.

1. What is your purpose?

2. Who is your audience and what is the occasion surrounding your argument?

3. What is your primary claim?

4. What are three reasons your audience should accept your claim?

5. Apply stasis theory to your argument. Explain how arguments of fact, definition, evaluation or causation, and proposal will contribute to your argument’s success.
6. Essay Outline

Paragraph 1: Primary Claim:

What kind of “hook” will you use to get your reader’s attention?

Paragraph 2: Secondary Claim:

Support and page number:

Support and page number:

What kind of argument will this paragraph use?

Paragraph 3: Secondary Claim:

Support and page number:

Support and page number:

What kind of argument will this paragraph use?

Paragraph 4: Secondary Claim:

Support and page number:

Support and page number:

What kind of argument will this paragraph use?

Paragraph 5: Counterclaim

Support and page number:

Support and page number:

What kind of argument will this paragraph use?

Paragraph 6: Primary Claim (**DO NOT JUST RESTATE YOUR CLAIM FROM PARAGRAPH 1**)