Expository Reading/Writing
Ms. Morgan

Module 2 Writing Task: Letter to the Editor
50 Points; Due Wednesday, Sept. 19, 2018
*Submit to Turnitin.com

What is a Letter to the Editor? It is a letter sent to a publication (newspaper, magazine) from a reader about issues of concern. Sometimes, letters are in support of an editorial that was written; other times, the letter contradicts an editorial's message.

Key components of a "publishable" letter:
- Concise and focused on the issue/topic at hand
- Responds to a thesis/claim from an editorial
- Responds to editorial promptly (within a few days)
- Validity of writer
- Contains diverse viewpoints
- Includes new information/arguments

Task Part 1
- Research news sites (local, national, and/or world) for a current event or situation that interests you.

- Research that event or situation in more depth to learn as much information about it as possible. Record research in a Google Doc or in your WNB (left-hand page).

- *You will NOT need to submit your research, but it will be evident in your letter if you have not researched your topic thoroughly!*

- ***IMPORTANT: You must find an editorial about your event to which you can respond.**

Task Part 2
- Respond to the editorial you found in Part 1, taking care to incorporate research you recorded.

- *REMEMBER:* good Letters to the Editor are well-informed and contain a supported argument (in favor or against the editorial).

- It is acceptable to disagree with the editorial - *even vehemently disagree* - but you must support your assertions (think about writing a counterargument - how can you prove the opposite argument?)

Requirements:
- Typed; MLA formatting
- Attention-grabbing title *(not "Response to [Editorial Title]")*
- Restatement of editorial claim/thesis in the introduction
- Use of template (if you prefer)
- Minimum 250-500 words (1-2 pages double spaced)
- Proofread
- Submit to Turnitin.com on or before the due date