

Persuasive Rant

ENGLISH EDITORIAL ACTIVITY

Persuasive Rant

- **Assignment Type: Standard**
- **Rationale:**
 - A rant is a semi-angry editorial whereby the speaker takes issue with something with which he/she doesn't agree.
 - Often, a rant will appear in a news broadcast and is created in response to a topic which has meaning to the author. Think of the Rick Mercer Report and his weekly rants about politics and other Canadian oddities.

Persuasive Rants

- **Some characteristics of successful rants:**
 - They are usually written to encourage people/governments/societies/countries to make some sort of change.
 - They are very opinionated and one-sided, usually only speaking to one side of an issue.
 - They tend to take an angry (and/or sometimes sarcastic) tone.
 - They are very critical of the topic in question (again, think of Rex Murphy and Rick Mercer).
 - They tend to be laced with rhetorical devices, attempting to urge the reader to agree with the writer's opinions.

Your Persuasive Rants:

- Will be in the neighborhood of 200-250 words.
- Will be read or spoken from memory (preferred) to your peers from the podium.
- Will last anywhere from two to three minutes.
- Your rant will be assessed as an oral presentation.
- Nothing will need to be submitted.
- All students must be prepared to present on Monday, September 28 when their names are drawn in the lethal lottery from the MRHS Mega-Bowl.

Rant Assessment

- Each of the following categories shall be assessed on a scale of:
 - ④-Outstanding; ③-Strong; ②-Adequate; and ①-Weak:
 - Use of Rhetorical Devices
 - Enthusiasm
 - Exploration of Topic
 - Vocal Cues (pitch, volume, pauses, pace, clarity of voice, etc.)
 - Gestures and Eye Contact