**Essay #1:**

You have to write a synthesis essay:

* No more than 2 pages
* 12pt Times New Roman Font
* Double space

Discuss common themes addressed in the readings and the ways in which the various authors “talk to one another” about these themes. How does this group of articles contribute to our understanding of particular ideas and questions relating to language?

Do not organize your essay by source/article, your essay needs to make connections among source materials. The handout will help you write your essay – make sure to follow the steps:

1. Planning a synthesis paper: What are the common points/categories? / What are the possible research questions?

2. Writing a synthesis paper: One you have your common point/your topic: what are your 2-3 subtopics? (your essay is only 2 pages max.!). For each subtopic, create a topic sentence, and support your topic sentences incorporating source material (we have read, annotated and discussed five articles/chapter)

3. Recognizing synthesis

4. Review

Our source material / Readings:

* What is a language? What is a dialect?
* The myth of non-accent
* Everyone has an accent except me
* Italian is beautiful German is Ugly
* They speak really bad English down the South and in New York City.

Rubric:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Commendable** | **Acceptable** | **Needs some work** |
| **Structure**  Synthesis consists of well-formed paragraphs with a topic sentence, uses quotes from the author or paraphrases the author’s ideas to support topic sentence, and summarizes sources by topic rather than by author | 9-10 | 7-8 | 1-6 |
| **Content**  Synthesis answers the research question, presents and accurate and thoughtful portrayal of the literature, and identifies relevant categories or themes that cut across most or all of the articles. | 9-10 | 7-8 | 1-6 |
| **Format**  Synthesis is carefully proofread and neatly formatted with a bibliography including all sources cited. Use a consistent style (e.g. APA, MLA, etc.) | 9-10 | 7-8 | 1-6 |
| **Total** |  |  |  |