***Serial* Op-ed**

**Prompt:**

Was justice served in the murder trial of Adnan Syed? After listening to *Serial* season 1 and reviewing related materials, write an opinion-editorial (op-ed) article for online publication in which you address this question and argue both Adnan’s guilt or innocence and the effectiveness of his prosecution and defense. Support your position by both directly citing and paraphrasing evidence from the podcast and related texts. Be sure to refute competing views.

**Formatting:**

Your op-ed should be 500 to 800 words in length, single-spaced in 12 point Times New Roman and shared on Google Drive by the date of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. This is NOT a 5 paragraph essay.

Full transcripts of *Serial* are available here: <https://genius.com/albums/Serial-podcast/Serial-season-1>. You should cite Sarah Koenig and the *Serial* podcast rather than Genius.com.

**Rubric:**

The score you receive on your op-ed will count as your **final** (20% of your semester grade) for English II. Regarding organization, remember that your op-ed must include a lede, nut graf, claim, reasoning, evidence, counterclaim, refutation, and a call to action.

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| **Missing - 0** | **Not yet - 0.1** | **2 - Developing skills** | **3 - Approaching mastery** | **4 - Mastery** | **5 - Advanced mastery** |
| No op-ed submitted. | The op-ed answers the prompt with a **vague claim** and **uses scant textual evidence,** utilizing **basic organization**. The argument is **entirely subjective** and **fallacious**. | The op-ed answers the prompt with a **basic claim** and **paraphrases textual evidence with lapses in reasoning and relevance,** utilizing **basic organIzation**. The author’s argument **largely subjective** and **includes fallacious reasoning.** | The op-ed answers the prompt with an **adequate claim** and **paraphrases textual evidence** to support it, utilizing **appropriate organization**. The author **mostly maintains objectivity** and **mostly avoids fallacious reasoning.**  | The op-ed answers the prompt with a **clear claim** and **directly cites or paraphrases relevant textual evidence** to support it, utilizing **appropriate organization**. The author **maintains objectivity** and avoids **fallacious reasoning**.  | The op-ed answers the prompt with a **strong claim** and **directly cites textual evidence** to support it, utilizing **strategic and effective organization**. The author maintains **objectivity** and **actively disputes fallacious reasoning.** |

Standards assessed:

**RI. 9-10.2:** Determine the central idea and make an objective summary of a text.

**RI.9-10.8:** Evaluate claims and avoid fallacious reasoning

**RL.9-10.1:** Cite textual evidence.

**W.9-10.5:** Improve writing through revision and editing.

**W.9-10.7:** Conduct extended research projects.