



Cicero



William Bennett, appointed Secretary of Education in 1985, supported classical education and was a fierce proponent of stricter laws regarding illegal drugs.

Assignment 20

Compare, Persuade, Debate

- *literature*. Read the former “Drug Czar” William Bennett’s opinion on how America should deal with illicit drug sales and use. As you read the essay reflect on 1) the author’s argument 2) how the author argues his view (facts, anecdotal evidence, generalizations, statistics, deductive reasoning, etc.) 3) your own analysis of the issue and how it differs from (but may not contradict) Bennett’s. 4) your own view—does it agree or disagree with Bennet’s? Do you agree, but think that the argument is framed incorrectly? You may agree with the conclusions William Bennett makes, but not the way in which he argues the point.
- *persuasive essay*. Do you take a strong view on a particular topic? Write down your position and three or more reasons to support it. Be able to articulate the importance of the issue in class.
- *speech night*. You will begin your speech night project, which will be to write a speech in one of the following formats: expository, narrative, persuasive, musings, or comparison. Now that you know your format, you will choose a topic for your essay. The essay will be due the first week in March.
- *debate night*. I am scheduling Friday, March 14 as a time to view a formal debate at my home. It will be general debate on the existence of God. We will be having a dinner at 6:00 and start the debate at 6:45. After the debate we will be having dessert. Please let me know in class if you cannot come and perhaps we can arrange another time.

Long-Term Assignment

- *persuasive essay*. Write a persuasive essay on one of the assigned topics or a topic of your choice, due the third week in February.
- *speech night essay*. Your Speech Night essay will be due the first week in March.
- *debate night*. I am scheduling Friday, March 14 for our get-together at my home for watching a formal debate. We will be having a dinner at 6:00 and start the debate at 6:45. After the debate we will be having dessert.