

INDEPENDENT STUDY PROJECT

Grade 10 Applied

For your ISP, you will write a series of paragraphs to defend an opinion about a current news story in the media.

Required elements:

- The series of paragraphs
- Analysis of three news stories about your issue
- Oral Presentation
- Rough Notes

Possible Research Topics

- Rob Ford's mayoral problems
- The elementary school tragedy in Connecticut
- The NHL Strike
- Ontario teacher strikes
- Technology in the classroom
- Blue Jays super deal
- Most recent video game release
- Celebrity break-ups
- Any of the OSSLT prompts
- A topic of your choosing

Part 1: The Series of Paragraphs

You have already written one series of paragraphs. Now, you will choose your own topic, form your own question, and then write a series of paragraphs defending your opinion about that topic.

The minimum should be three paragraphs, though five is best.

Part 2: Analysis of Three Newspaper Articles

Your series of opinions needs to be supported with current news stories. Bring in at least three newspaper articles that you either found online, in newspapers, or in magazines. For each one, explain what information you found useful. Use the *News Article Tracking Sheet* to help you. The articles must be submitted with the final project.

Part 3: Oral Presentation

On the day the ISP is due, you will be asked to summarize your findings to the class in 1-2 minutes. Then, you will defend your opinion on the issue during a brief question and answer period.



Writing the Series of Paragraphs

Topic: _____

Step 1: Write the question here:

Step 2: Write down ideas that might support both sides of the question

"For" Reasons	"Against" Reason

Step 3: Decide which opinion you will adopt

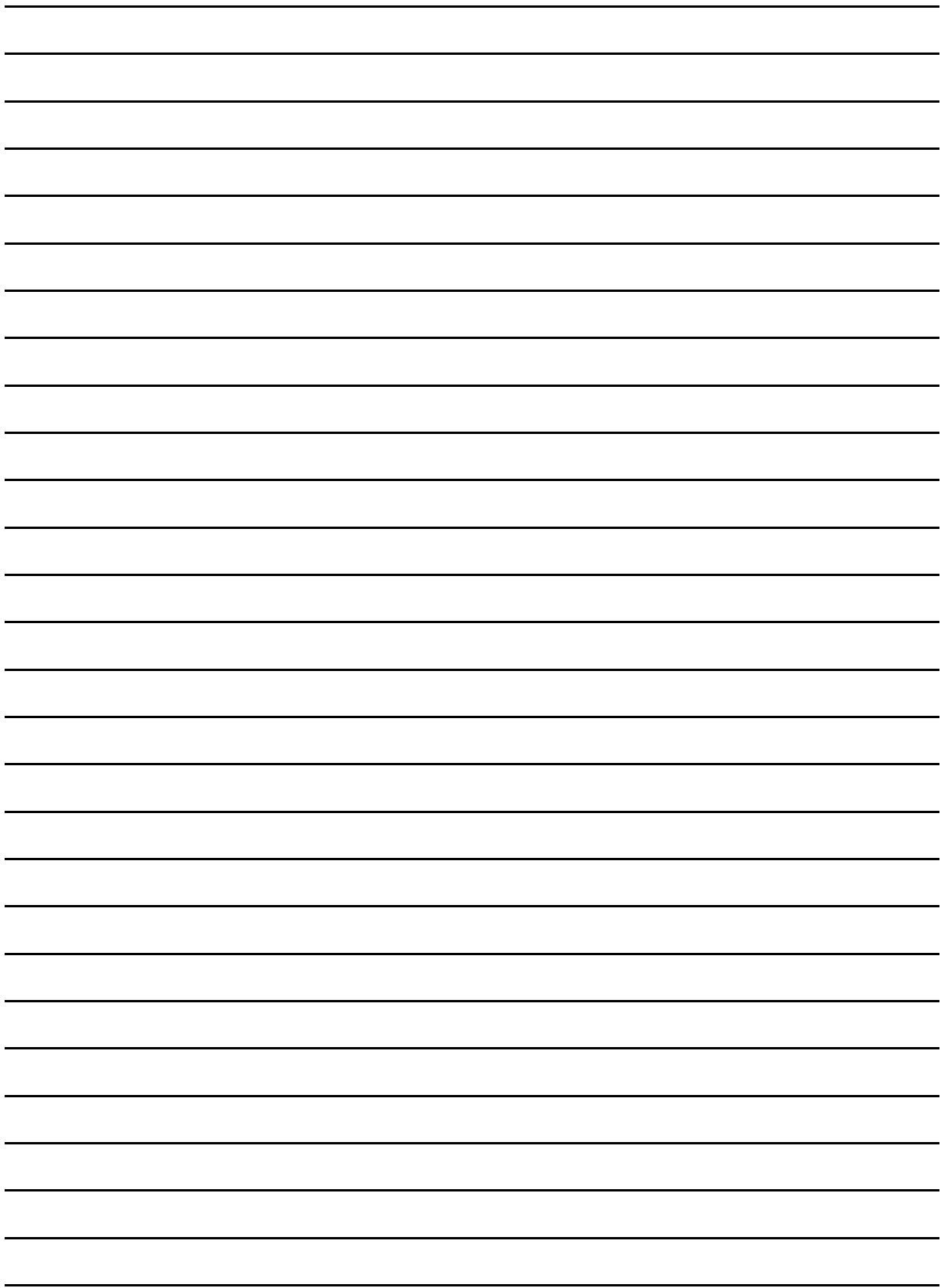
Step 4: Choose three arguments that best support your opinion

Argument 1	Argument 2	Argument 3

Step 5: Give supporting details from the news stories you have read to support your arguments

Evidence to Support Argument 1	Evidence to Support Argument 2	Evidence to Support Argument 3

Step 6: Write the series of paragraphs



News Article Tracking Sheet

News Article Details (Date, Title, Author, Source)	Most Useful Information
Source 1	
Source 2	
Source 3	