

**Please attach this page to essay:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Double Helix Persuasive Essay**

Students will write a six paragraph essay. The purpose of the essay is not only to choose who “should” have won the Nobel Prize for the discovery of the structure of DNA, but, to convince the reader of the validity of the choice using information (with page citation) from the book The Double Helix. In reality, Watson, Crick, and Wilkins shared the prize. Franklin was ineligible to receive it because she had died prior to the award being given.

Students will be allowed to award the prize to one, two, or three recipients. Each of the four candidates should be described in a body paragraph as to whether s/he is being given the award. Within each paragraph, the writer must indicate both the contributions as well as the instances when they detracted from the process of searching for and discovering the structure of DNA.

The candidates can be presented in any order. The essay must be typed. As an honors biology writing assignment, depth and quality of writing is a reasonable expectation.

### **Rubric**

	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Bibliography</b>	correct		mistakes		lacking
<b>Intro paragraph</b>	clear choice		vague		lacking
<b>Conclusion</b>	clear summary		vague		lacking
<b>Grammar/Spelling</b>	0 mistakes	1-2	3-4	5-6	7 or more
<b>Each paragraph (x 4)</b>					
<b>Pros</b>			+		0
<b>Cons</b>			+		0
<b>Citations</b>			+		0
<b>Choice clear</b>			+		0
<b>Expectation of Quality</b>		exceeds (+1)	meets (0)	lacking (-1)	poor (-2)