

Prewriting Activity for Literary Argument

The task

- 1) Select one of the following characters from *Julius Caesar*: Cassius, Brutus, Caesar, Antony.
- 2) In a well-developed essay, you will define what it means to be Machiavellian and argue whether or not your selected character is Machiavellian and what this reveals about the validity of Machiavelli's claims. You will also address and refute an opposing view.

Getting started

- 1) Using the discussion activity you completed in class, do some prewriting. You may use one of the following formats, but you are not limited to these. **This assignment will be turned in for a grade.**
- 2) Be sure to select a character for your analysis and to consider possible claims for your paper. In other words, be able to answer this question: Is the character Machiavellian? How do you know? What does his success and/or failure reveal about the nature of people and power?
- 3) Though you are not required to cite specific quotes here, it is important to consider what Machiavellian claims you will cite in your paper and what evidence you will use from Shakespeare's play while completing this assignment.

Listing / Free writing

Character: _____

Is / is not Machiavellian because...

- Point 1
- Point 2
- Point 3, etc.
- Opposing viewpoint
- Why the opposing viewpoint is limited or incorrect

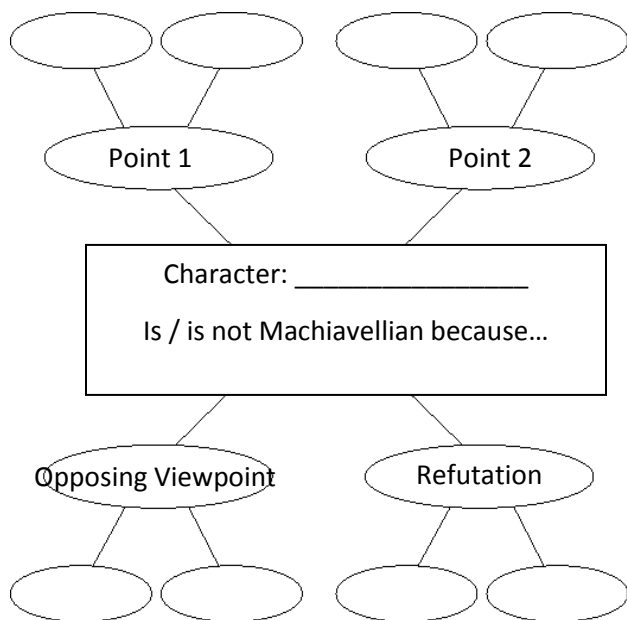
Working Outline

Character: _____

Is / is not Machiavellian because...

- I. Point 1
 - a. Evidence
 - b. Evidence
- II. Point 2
 - a. Evidence
 - b. Evidence
- III. Opposing viewpoint
 - a. Concession/acknowledgment
 - b. Refutation/rebuttal
 - c. Evidence

Clustering



T-Chart

Character: _____

Is / is not Machiavellian because...

My Points	Opposing Viewpoint
<i>*Be sure to list at least two different subclaims*</i>	<i>*Be sure to note why the opposing view is limited or incorrect*</i>