**Name: Date: Period:**

**Designer Babies Think Show Project**

This assignment will consist of **THREE PARTS:**

* Summary/opinion essay (as usual) on the article **“Designer Babies: A Right to Choose?”**
* “Memphian Opinions” survey
* Visual/Oral presentation

**Timeline/Due dates**

* Essay check: February 6th, 2011
* Survey check: February 13th, 2011
* Project (with essay, survey, and presentation) due: February 22nd, 2011

**Summary/Opinion Essay**

The summary/opinion portion of the project will be the same as other opinion essays we have done this year. You will read an article that is about a current science topic. Then, you will write **one paragraph** that summarizes the article. (What was the article about? What were the main topics? How ,according to the article, will this benefit humans?) Your **second paragraph** will be your opinion on the article’s subject. (What did you think about the article? Do you think “designer babies” will help people or harm us? Which point of view did you agree with? Why do you agree or disagree? What do you think will happen if changing our babies’ genes becomes prevalent?)

**Memphian Opinions Survey**

After you complete your summary/opinion essay, you will then collect data in the form of a survey. You will ask **at least** ten people their opinions on the article’s subject. We will work together as a class to make a survey that you will be able to use to rank your participants’ responses on a numerical scale. You will then be able to present your findings in a quantitative form. (Quantitative review)

**Visual/Oral Presentation**

You will then present a summary of the article, your opinion on the article topic, and your data (survey findings) in a **visual presentation** (poster, power point, collage, newspaper article, or blog). You will show this visual product with an oral presentation (a speech) that describes your visual, summarizes the article, and talks about your survey data.

**\*\*More info will come on each section as we progress on the timeline! \*\***

**Article Overview**

* The article “Designer Babies: A Right to Choose?” is an interview with two different people: James Hughes and Marcy Darnovsky. Mr. Hughes supports reproductive technologies that allow parents to choose their babies’ physical traits; he believes that designing babies is part of our individual freedoms. Ms. Darnovsky, however, is completely against using gene technology this way and suggests that doing so may lead to even more discrimination.

**Rubric/Assignment Checklist**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Section** | **Criteria** | **Grade** |

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| --- |
| **Summary/Opinion Essay** |
| **Memphian Opinion Survey** |
| **Visual/Oral Presentation** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **\_**Summary article is complete.  \_ Summary article is at least 8 sentences and describes the main idea of the article clearly.  \_ Opinion article is complete.  \_ Opinion article is at least 8 sentences and clearly states why you agree/disagree and uses evidence from the text.  \_Grammatically correct and correct spelling |  |
| \_ Survey consists of a quantitative opinion scale.  \_ Survey consists of a brief, qualitative summary of the article topic.  **\_**Survey consists of at least 10 participants’ responses.  \_ Data is summarized in mean, mode, and median form. |  |
| \_Visual component is a power point, poster, collage, or blog.  \_ Visual component is complete (summary, data, and opinion portions) and is neat and organized.  \_Oral presentation consists of a description of the article’s topic, your opinion on the topic, survey data, and visual component.  \_ Oral presentation is at least 4 minutes.  \_Oral presentation is well-rehearsed (meaning that you may not look at your notes for more than 15 seconds at a time) and presented with minimal pauses, no poor grammar, and at an appropriate volume. |  |

**CFU Quiz**

**What are the three parts of this assignment?**

**T or F.** The first time Ms. M will see my essay is on Feb. 22nd.

**In your own words, what does Ms. M mean by a survey? What are you going to be asking people about?**

**What are the two parts you must have as part of your visual/oral presentation?**

**What format can your visual presentation be in?**

**What are the criteria for the oral presentation?**