**Sources of Energy Research Paper** (**This is an individual assignment)**

A new town is being built in our region, and the local council is trying to decide which sources of energy would be useful to the residents. There are many viewpoints to consider. You will submit a research paper outlying the best sources that the municipality should use.

Your assignment is to examine a source of renewable or non-renewable energy for the town through the lens of ONE of the following “professions:” historian, economist, environmentalist, or scientist.

You choose the type of energy (at least one) you want to examine and the profession you would like to represent.

***Essential Focus Question:*** *Do you recommend this energy source for a new municipality (town or village) being established in the Atlanta region?*

**DUE: Friday, 4/3- Type and Email to me!**

**Requirements:**

* 1000-1250 words (about 3-4 pages), Times New Roman font, 12-pt, 1.5 spacing
* Separate references page that does not count towards word count, APA format. At least five references. For your reference <https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/apa_style/apa_formatting_and_style_guide/general_format.html>
* References **must be reputable.** Rule of thumb: .edu, .gov, and .org domains are generally reputable. “.com” may be useful, however, if you are doing something like citing the price charged by a power company, or discussing claims made by a company, so don’t assume you should never use one for any reason at all.
* Wikipedia IS a useful source; however, it is **not to be cited.** At the bottom of any major Wikipedia page you will see an extensive list of footnotes. Those are the primary sources that should be examined and cited in your paper, and Wikipedia is a great gateway to find those facts and sources. They should always be specifically checked to make sure they are being quoted correctly by Wikipedia.
* You may refer to yourself in 1st person in the paper.

**Questions to be explored depend on your assigned profession.** You are not required to conclude your paper by recommending your assigned energy source. You may end up not recommending use at all, or you may end up suggesting it is used only partially in addition to other sources.

**Historian:**

* What is the timeline of how we came to discover and exploit this energy source?
* How has our usage of this source changed since we first discovered it?
* When was the “peak” of our usage, or is it still in the future?
* What major disasters have occurred as a result of using this source of energy? Were they preventable? What actions were taken to prevent them in the future?
* Conclude by referring back to the focus question

**Environmentalist**

* Discuss how location, extraction, and exploitation of this energy source affects the environment. Remember to consider every step along the way.
* Provide information about how the negative effects on the environment can be avoided or mitigated if and when this energy source is used.
* Provide **specific examples** of locations in the world where this resource has been used carefully and wisely with regards to the environment, and examples of locations where carelessness led to environmental disaster.
* Conclude by referring back to the focus question

**Economist**

* Examine your energy source through the lens of business. Explain the impact using this energy source has had on the world market historically and today. Consider manufacturing of the equipment to extract and utilize the resource, transportation, and the price of the resource itself.
* Discuss the impacts of using this resource in terms of more local economies as well, for example on job markets. Remember to consider **long-term** prospects for the local economy as well.
* Provide several **specific examples** of how your resource has affected politics, which may involve anything from local disagreements or referenda up to global wars.
* Conclude by referring back to the focus question

**Scientist**

* Describe the science of extracting the energy from this resource, from its original source to its end user.
* Explain the most recent technologies and how and why they have changed (to become more efficient? To reduce impact on the environment? To become cheaper?)
* Provide **specific examples** of research that is occurring to improve technology on this energy source in the future.
* Conclude by referring back to the focus question

**Rubric:**

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| **Paper** | Content addressed fully, coherently, and concisely | 30 |
| Formatting of paper/Grammar | 10 |
| Reputable sources/Citations | 10 |
| **Total points (test category)** | | **50** |