

# ***What do you think you can accomplish in 5,000 hours?***

***\*\*Do Not Write Your Name On Your Paragraph!\*\****

**Write a detailed paragraph, including...**

## **For IDEAS:**

- A Topic Sentence
- Nitty-Gritty Details (statistics, quotes, illustrative details, sensory details, etc.)
- Down and Dirty Nitty-Gritty Details (*How does your topic relate to you or others Physically, Academically, Socially, Spiritually, Emotionally, and/or Financially)*)

## **For Organization:**

- Transitions

## **For Style:**

- Sentence Variety
- Vocabulary (Think Verbs, Adjectives, and Adverbs)

## **For CONVENTIONS:**

- Demonstrate Mastery Punctuation
- Sentence Construction (Eliminate Fragments and Run-On Sentences)

Prepare to Read  
(p. 666-667)  
*The Trouble with Television*  
*The American Dream*

**Complete the following 3-2-1 summary:**

3: Persuasive Techniques with an explanation on how you can use them in your writing

2: Questions that you may ask yourself while evaluating a writer's argument

1: Sentence on the value of watching television. In other words, what is the value of watching television?

# Chart

<b>Main Points</b> <b>(What is the author saying?)</b>	<b>Persuasive Technique</b> <b>(What technique from page 667 is the author using?)</b>	<b>Example</b> <b>(Quote the sentence(s) from the text and include page numbers.)</b>

# Keep Track of What You Find:

- Facts
- Statistics
- Quotations
- Strong Vocabulary
- Repeating Key Ideas
- Slogans or Chants

# Chart

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Americans watch a lot of television.	Statistics	“If you fit the statistical averages, by the age of 20 you will have been exposed to at least 20,000 hours of television” (MacNeil 669).

# Keep Track of What You Find:

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- ~~Statistics~~ TTWT 669
- Quotations
- Strong Vocabulary
- Repeating Key Ideas
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**Guided Questions**  
***The Trouble with Television***

**Robert MacNeil**

## Guided Questions

1. p. 669: What support does MacNeil cite before he ever states the point of his argument?
2. p. 669: What is MacNeil's attitude toward television?
3. p. 670: What does this photograph suggest about the process of watching television?
4. p. 670: What persuasive techniques does MacNeil use in the last paragraph?
5. p. 671: Does the first paragraph seem logical to you? Why or why not?



## Guided Questions

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## Extend your Knowledge

Using your completed chart, write a letter to Robert MacNeil addressing at least two of his arguments concerning "The Trouble with Television." Respectfully disagree with at least two of MacNeil's arguments, provide nitty-gritty details to illustrate your refutations (your arguments against), and down and dirty nitty-gritty (PASSEF) details to illustrate how your refutations are relevant.

Your letter should include the following:

- Greeting
- Introductory Paragraph
- At least two body paragraphs refuting MacNeil's points
- Concluding Paragraph
- Closing

# Review and Assess

1. **Respond:** Is television a waste of time or a valuable source of information? Explain.
2. **a) Recall:** According to MacNeil, what is the biggest trouble with television?  
**b) Draw Conclusions:** How might everyday life be different if people watched less television? Explain.
3. **a) Recall:** To what growing crisis in the United States does MacNeil believe television contributes?  
**b) Evaluate:** Are MacNeil's arguments justified? Explain.
4. **a) Recall:** What positive aspects of the medium of television does MacNeil mention?  
**b) Speculate:** If MacNeil were the president of a television network, what changes in the programming might he make?
5. **a) Recall:** What three "decivilizing" assumptions does MacNeil say that television programs encourage in the viewer?  
**b) Apply:** Do you think television could be improved? How?  
**c) Make a Judgment:** To what degree is television a valuable or a destructive element in society? Explain.

**Guided Questions**  
***The American Dream***  
**Martin Luther King, Jr.**

1. p. 673: Why does King cite the Declaration of Independence?
2. p. 673: What is the dream that King is expressing?
3. P. 674: What does King mean when he says, “ Man’s specific genius and technological ingenuity has dwarfed distance and placed time in chains.” ?

**Guided Questions**  
***The American Dream***  
**Martin Luther King, Jr.**

1. p. 673: Why does King cite the Declaration of Independence?  
Martin Luther King, Jr. quotes the Declaration of Independence to persuade the audience to believe in his argument; he dissects the famous quotation almost word by word to make his point.
2. p. 673: What is the dream that King is expressing?  
King is expressing the dream of equality and freedom for all people-not just for some.
3. P. 674: What does King mean when he says, “ Man’s specific genius and technological ingenuity has dwarfed distance and placed time in chains.”?  
King means that, because of technology, we are able to rapidly communicate with others from locations that are far away. This point has only been further proven with advances in the Internet because we can instantaneously communicate documents through email and Cloud technology.

# Chart

<b>Main Points (What is the author saying?)</b>	<b>Persuasive Technique (What technique from page 667 is the author using?)</b>	<b>Example (Quote the sentence(s) from the text and include page numbers.)</b>
<p>America is supposed to be a place where everyone can live and prosper together.</p>	<p>Quote—The Declaration of Independence</p>	<p>“The substance of the dream is expressed in these sublime words, words lifted to cosmic proportions: ‘We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness’” (King 673).</p>

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America is proud to pledge freedom and opportunity for all, yet there are many Americans who don't practice this philosophy.	Strong Vocabulary	"Ever since the Founding Fathers of our nation dreamed this noble dream, America has been something of a schizophrenic personality, tragically divided against herself" (King 673).

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<p>America is part of a global system. We are essentially one neighborhood in a large community.</p>	<p>Repeating of Key Ideas</p>	<p>“Through our scientific genius we have made of this world a neighborhood: now through our moral and spiritual development we must make of it a brotherhood. In a real sense, we must all learn to live together as brothers, or we will all perish together as fools. We must come to see that no individual can live alone: no nation can live alone. We must all live together: we must all be concerned about each other” (King 674).</p>

# Review and Assess

1. **Respond:** What is your “American Dream”?
2. **a) Recall:** According to King, what historic document reveals “the American dream”?  
**b) Interpret:** What is the significance of the lines King recites from this document?
3. **a) Recall:** What does King think will happen if the United States continues to exploit minority groups?  
**b) Infer:** Explain what King means when he speaks of the “American dilemma.”
4. **a) Recall:** King talks about the impact of rapid travel on the world. What does he say has been a result of this ability to travel?  
**b) Analyze:** According to King, what is the difference between a neighborhood and a brotherhood?
5. **a) Recall:** What does King think must be done if the American dream is to become a reality?  
**b) Assess:** Do you agree? Explain.



**Comparing Literary Works: Write a Persuasive Essay using the same techniques you have recently studied to convince the class which author did the best job of making his case. Use the following questions to organize your thoughts.**

1. Which author uses a greater variety of persuasive techniques to make his case? Explain and give examples.
2. Which selection do you think employs these persuasive techniques more effectively? Why?
3. On the whole, which selection is more persuasive? Why?