

## Genetic Condition Research Paper Outline

- I. Thesis Statement (What is your paper about? ex. Myotonic Muscular Dystrophy is a genetic disease common in the United States.)
  - A. Why did you select this topic? (i.e. My father had this disorder)
  - B. Pop Culture Connection? (This will help people relate to your topic who do not know your family. i.e. This is the disorder that Super Star also has.)
  - C. Why should someone continue reading? (Being the 3<sup>rd</sup> most common disorder among men, there is a high percentage chance that you will know someone with MMD in your lifetime...maybe even you!)
- II. The Science Behind the Disease/Disorder
  - A. Genetic Explanation (recessive, dominant, chromosomal, etc.??)
  - B. How is it discovered in the person? (signs/symptoms/tests?)
  - A. Prevalence (Who has it? Where is found? How common is it?)
- III. Cures/Treatments
  - A. Medicinal Treatments (what can doctors/medicine do to help?)
  - B. Personal Treatment
- IV. Conclusion
  - A. Review thesis statement
  - B. Review alarming stats (but do not add new info)
  - C. End it (no "The End")

## The 5 "W"s of Research Writing

### 1W) Who

- A. Who typically gets this condition/disease/disorder?
- B. What age are the people usually diagnosed/identified?
- C. Is it usually found in males or females?
- D. Does it tend to be more prevalent in a certain race, ethnicity, etc.?
- E. 5 Interesting Facts/Stats

### 2W) Where:

- A. Where in the world is the condition/disease/disorder typically found?
- B. Where is the body affected?
- C. 5 Interesting Facts/Stats related to where (where in the body, or where in the world)

3W) When:

- A. When was the condition/disorder/disease discovered or categorized and who identified it?
- B. When were improvements made (if any) on detection and/or prevention?
- C. 3 Interesting Facts/Stats related to when

4W: What

- A. What has been done to try to address the condition/disorder/disease?
- B. What impact has the discovery of this condition/disease/disorder had on other areas of medicine (if available)
- C. 2 Interesting Facts/Stats related to what

5W: Why

- A. Why is information about this condition/disease/disorder important?
- B. Why might an individual want/not want other people to know that they have the condition/disease/disorder or the potential DNA to get the condition/disease/disorder?
- D. 3 Interesting Facts/Stats related to why

## **Possible additional source card categories:**

Description

History

Symptoms

Causes

Risk Factors - who is impacted

Complications

Treatment

Misconceptions