CCLS ALIGNED UNIT: Nuclear Chemistry

**PROJECT: ARGUMENTATIVE ESSAY TASK**

**Focus Question:** According to current scientific understanding, what are the benefits and risks of nuclear energy?

**Guiding Questions:** Do the benefits outweigh the costs? What scientific evidence supports the position?

**Task:** There are plans to build a nuclear reactor in East New York. The town is holding a meeting where residents can voice their support or opposition to the plant. Assume the role of an expert and write a brief in which you argue for or against building a nuclear reactor. Be sure to cite evidence and acknowledge counterclaims. Use words, phrases, and clauses to link sections of the brief and provide a concluding statement that supports your argument. You must cite from the three articles that you are given and use the correct rules for proper American English Writing.

**Your final essay must be:**

* Typed
* 12 pt font
* Times New Roman
* Double Spaced
* One inch margins
* No extra space between paragraphs
* In text citations (Author Last Name, Year, p. #) (Francois, 2014, p.13)
* Works Cited Page in APA format (Look online for format)
* Have the following Heading at top right hand corner:

Your Name

Class Name—Period \_\_\_\_

Teacher Name

Date

Your first and final draft will be rated using the CCLS argumentative essay rubric. A peer using a rubric will rate the first draft. You will be asked to make those corrections and then I will grade the final draft.

Your essay grade will be graded based on your completion of:

1. Completion of First draft (100 pts)
2. Peer editing and peer revising notes that you complete for your partner (200 pts)
3. Final draft (incorporating suggestions from your partner) (100 pts)

**Total Score will be rated out of 400 points.**

Readings that you will use for your essay:

1. *The Fatal Flaws of Nuclear Power*

Author: Public Citizen

2. *Nuclear Power is Extremely Safe*

Author: Alex Epstein

3. *The Case For and Against Nuclear Power*

Author: Michael Totty

You will be expected to use the following format to write your essay (see attached). Your first draft that your partner will read will be written on the graphic organizer that is given to you.