Create Your Own Utopia

Imagine that you are in a position to create a society from scratch. You and your partner(s) must attempt to form a culture that is free from the troubles of current society. You must first identify what you believe to be wrong with the world today; then you must attempt to correct those problems.

Ultimately, you will create a website for your utopia. Your site will include all of the components mentioned below. <u>Its purpose will be to attract and inform potential inhabitants. It should look like an online brochure for your utopia.</u> Therefore, it should be thoughtfully designed and artfully laid-out. The rubric will help you do this successfully.

1) <u>**Declaration of Independence**</u>: Look at the U.S. Declaration of Independence; note it's structure and content.
   a) <u>**Preamble & Statement of Beliefs**</u>: Write a statement outlining the purpose and philosophical basis for the creation of your utopia. Include the fundamental values and goals of your society. Refer to the preamble & statement of beliefs of the Declaration of Independence.
   b) <u>**List of Complaints**</u>: Make a list of seven reasons for forming your society. In other words, what do you *not* like about current society? What are your specific complaints?

2) <u>**Name**</u> your society. Your name should reflect the ideals and values of your utopia.

3) <u>**Utopian Motto**</u>: Create a slogan/motto to which inhabitants of your utopia would adhere. Look at the examples of state and country mottos for ideas. Again, the motto should reflect the overall ideals of your society.

4) <u>**Utopian Animal**</u>: What animal would symbolize your utopian society? Explain your choice. You can make up an animal as long as you have a sound explanation for what is symbolizes.

5) <u>**Rules/Rationales**</u>: Develop a list of at least ten (10) rules that all community members would follow. Give a rationale for each rule.

6) <u>**Provisions for Life's Necessities**</u>: Explain how you will provide the basic necessities for living in your utopia (food, water, shelter, etc.).

7) <u>**Governing Body**</u>: How will the government of this utopia be structured? Will you have a democracy, anarchy, a monarchy, or a dictatorship? How will decisions be made in your utopia?

8) <u>**Options**</u>: Choose two of the societal elements outlined in the Options for Your Utopia attachment. Discuss how both will be structured and organized in your utopia. How will they work? See specific instructions on the Options for Your Utopia attachment.

Options for Your Utopia

Choose two of the following societal elements to include in your utopia. After you choose, you will receive an organizer to complete for each. The following blurbs are general. Just to give you an idea; the organizers will have much more detail.

1. **Members/Citizens** – If you don't have a global utopia, who will your citizens be? How many? What will they do? What rights will they have? How will they gain admittance to your utopia?

2. **Children & Education** – What are children's roles in your society? How do they fit in? What will your system of education be like?

3. **Economics, Work & Leisure** – What systems will be in place for the production and distribution of goods and services? What form of currency will you use? How is wealth distributed? Will your economy be independent or reliant on the rest of the world? Who will do the work? What does a day in the life of one of your inhabitants look like?

4. **Science, Technology & Environment** – Will you use technology in your utopia? How? What role will scientific pursuits play? What will your energy sources be? How will you dispose of society's wastes?

5. **Religion** – What role will religion play in your utopia? What freedoms or restrictions will you place on religious practices?

6. **The Arts & Media** – How will you incorporate artistic pursuits in your utopia? How much freedom of expression will artists and the media enjoy? Who will control the media?

7. **The Physical Structure** – What sort of landscape will you have? What will houses and buildings look like? How will they be arranged? What will the relationship between private and public space be? How and where will people live?

Names:

Utopia Website Evaluation

Category	Possible Points	Student Score	Teacher Score
Mission Statement- 3-4 reasons that make your society "stand out" from others are enumerated and are consistent with the ideals outlined in the rest of your site.	5		
Home Page – contains your society's name, explanation of your name, motto, animal name, explanation of your animal's significance to your society, and an original Photoshop picture of your animal. Font is attractive, bold, and appealing to the eye	10		
Rules – your ten rules state the guidelines your inhabitants must follow with a thoughtful, consistent rationale for each.	10		
Provisions for Life's Necessities – you have explained how inhabitants will have access to their basic needs of food, water, and shelter, and who is responsible for providing these things for your citizens.	5		
Governing Body – you provide a thoughtful, thorough, and consistent explanation of your money system, governmental structure, economy, and leadership process.	10		
Option – your chosen element of your society is explained in detail; it is thoughtful, well-reasoned, and consistent with the rest of your ideals.	10		

Physical Structure- the layout of your society is clearly explained and consistent with the actual geographical area that you chose for its location.	10		
Layout, Graphics and Color – your website is attractive and *free of spelling errors*; you balance words and graphics to make your site appealing and effective. Graphics are included on each page; they are eye-catching and relate to the themes of your website. Background and font color choices are pleasing but not distracting.	15		
Flag- You have included an originally designed flag that incorporates symbols and colors that represent your society. A brief explanation of the flag's parts is provided beneath your design.	5		
Commercial- your commercial highlights 3 important aspects of your society, uses 2 propaganda techniques, has supporting pictures or props, and satisfies the length requirement specified.	10		
Reflection- your website reflection is thoughtful and insightful; it displays your inferences regarding how you believe your utopia will affect its inhabitants. It takes peers' comments into account, reflects upon them, and then connects to the themes and issues within Gattaca.	20		
Total Points	110		