**Step Four: Creating**

**General:**

* 5-6 pages
* Double spaced
* 11 Calibri or 12 Times New Roman
* No headings
* Cite sources MLA7
* First person
* Minimum 5 different resources
* Specific thesis statement
* Running header throughout (minus the first page) with last name and page number
* General setup for the first page (name, class, teacher’s name, date) not on a separate page

**Layout:**

* **Introduction**
  + Obtain the reader’s attention
  + General information about the topic/ Background information
  + Why it interests you/why you chose it
  + May want to state any general pro and cons
  + Let the reader know in general what you intend to accomplish in your inquiry paper
  + Specific thesis statement
* **Body Paragraphs (Option One)**
  + State a big question (acts as a topic sentence)
  + Give a pro and a con for your topic
  + Have evidence that support both OBJECTIVELY
  + Link the outside sources to support each pro and con argument followed with your own explanations of each part
  + For another 2-4 paragraphs do the exact same thing with new big questions
* **Body Paragraphs (Option Two)** 
  + State a big question (acts as a topic sentence)
  + State your pros for your topic
  + Be sure to state them objectively
  + Link the outside sources to support each pro and con argument followed with your own explanations of each part
  + Continue listing pros until finished (2-3 paragraphs for 2-3 pros!)
  + Repeat the previous steps of option two using cons (2-3 cons)
* **Your View Paragraph (2nd last paragraph in your paper)** 
  + State your views clearly
  + Mention at least two of the opposing views and thoroughly discredit each view so the only argument left standing at the end of your paper is your own
* **Conclusion** 
  + Should summarize the whole paper and not just your final argument
  + Share with the reader what you accomplished in this essay (you did a lot of work!)
  + Ensure that near the end your idea is the only argument left standing

**Key Things to Remember**

* Your body paragraphs must be treated objectively
* Your view comes during the introduction and the your view paragraph (2nd last paragraph)
* The point of the paper is for you to explore various options/views and see if your view changes/shifts/is made stronger etc. You are FORCED to look at both sides before stating your opinion. In other essays, you only study one side, but it is important that you understand both sides before formulating a solid opinion