# The Nature of Mankind Unit Essay

Prompt: Since the beginning of the year, we have read and studied multiple works of fiction and nonfiction relating to the nature of mankind and have discussed how and why humans are capable of treating others so malignantly. We have studied multiple historical genocides and reflected on their causes and effects on the victims, aggressors, and the bystanders. Your task to write a four-paragraph essay answering the following essential question related to our studies: **Why does genocide STILL occur in today’s society, and does the international community have a responsibility to protect civilians in states where genocide is occurring?**

**Reminders:**

* Introduction with strong claim answering the essential question
* Topic sentences must be arguable and support the thesis.
* There are two ways to organize your paper. You may:
* Option #1: **Write two body paragraphs, each focusing on a reason why it still occurs and why we should or should not respond**.
* Option #2: **Write one body paragraph about why it occurs and one body paragraph about why we should or should not respond.**
* Use THREE pieces of evidence in each body paragraph.
* Your evidence may come from:
  + Nature vs. Nurture Source
  + *Lord of the Flies –* cite (Golding)
  + *Night -* cite(Wiesel)
  + Holocaust research
  + Genocide presentations and notes
  + “The 8 Stages of Genocide”- cite (Stanton)
  + *Tree Girl* – cite (Mikaelson)
  + Nonfiction sources that we have read and annotated in class
  + Any other information from your history course
* Make sure that you analyze how your evidence supports your claim.
* In your conclusion, restate your claim, sum up main points, and try to answer “so what?”

Outline:

\*Write down the claim that you will use in your paper. In the graphic organizers below, please write down notes to help you organize your thoughts.

Claim/Thesis: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Body Paragraph 1:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Topic for Body Paragraph 1: | |
| Evidence: | COMMENTARY: |
| Evidence: | COMMENTARY: |
| Evidence: | COMMENTARY: |
| So What? | |

Body Paragraph 2:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Topic for Body Paragraph 2: | |
| Evidence: | COMMENTARY: |
| Evidence: | COMMENTARY: |
| Evidence: | COMMENTARY: |
| So What? | |