Part 1: Language in Cultural Context

**Language Claims - Argumentative Response**

**TOPIC CHOICES:**

1. Recent advances in technology are ruining the English language.

Argue for or against this statement.

*OR*

1. Minority languages should be saved from extinction.

Argue for or against this statement.

*OR*

1. Language can teach you all you need to know about a culture.

Argue for or against this statement.

*OR*

1. You are how you speak. (Language usage forms your identity and/or others’ perceptions of who you are).

Argue for or against this statement.

**You should identify three reasons to support or challenge this statement. You MUST cite**

**readings from this unit AND additional research in your essay.**

**WRITING ADVICE**

* Use a plan and set up 2-3 main arguments to support your argument (thesis)
* Make sure your argument is established in your THESIS
* Link topic sentences and evidence (textual support) to your thesis to develop your argument throughout your response
* Pay close attention to transitions from one paragraph to another
* Expand and elaborate on your points by using specific details from research
* Make sure you source your readings within the body by using proper citations
* Use formal register; this is a formal essay therefore there should be no slang in your response. You must avoid contractions like ‘don’t’. Refer to any authors by their surnames (e.g Rosen claims ...)

**FORMAT:**

1. Introduction You must:

* Introduce the topic & define any key terms
* Give some basic information about why this topic is controversial
* Finish the paragraph with your thesis statement

2. BODY PARAGRAPH 1 - First point to support your argument

3. BODY PARAGRAPH 2 - Second point to support your argument

(4. BODY PARAGRAPH 3 - Third point to support your argument) *\* you may have 2 or 3 body paragraphs*

5. Conclusion - Return to thesis statement & extend out. Why is this an important topic?

6. References – You must include a Works Cited Page with your essay.

**Word Limit: 1000 -1200 words**