

**Critical Thinking Research Project:
Real-World Problem-Solving
Philosophy Program and LaGuardia Archives**

Step V: Final Essay		
Criterion	Points Earned	Points Possible
Includes an introductory paragraph that gives a clear description of a problem facing NYC, 3-5 body paragraphs that naturally organize your essay, and a concluding paragraph.		10
Explicitly includes a reflection on the relationship between the problem/solution you've identified and the theme of democracy.		5
Correctly and effectively uses the problem-solving method detailed in Chapter 3 of <i>Thinking Critically</i> . Identifies at least three alternatives for solving the problem and analyzes each of them in terms of their pros and cons.		20
Develops a clear and specific "plan of action" to implement the alternative(s) chosen discussed.		10
Properly uses three "topical" sources that have been evaluated for their reliability, bias, relevance, and accuracy. At least one source must come from the news, one from a scholarly source, and one from the Wagner Archives.		15
Properly uses at least one "field" source that has been evaluated for reliability, bias, relevance, and accuracy.		10
Correct formatting: Times New Roman, 12-point font, 1500+ words, double-spaced pages, regular margins, with proper grammar & spelling		10
Includes an MLA formatted Bibliography and proper internal citations		10
Final essay is handed in as a hardcopy in class on June 4 th and is submitted on Blackboard by the end of the day on June 4 th .		10
BONUS: Includes supporting material such as pictures, audio files, or photos of artifacts (file name must include when and where it was created)		10
TOTAL POINTS		100 (plus possible 10 bonus)