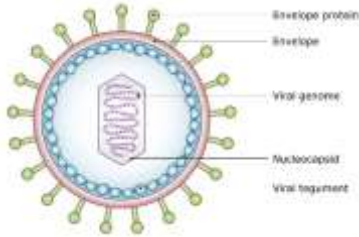
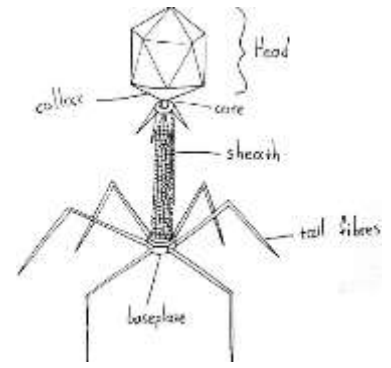


Vaccination Argumentative Essay

A virus is a small parasite consisting of nucleic acid (RNA or DNA) enclosed in a protein coat that can replicate only in a susceptible host cell. The entire infectious virus particle, called a virion, consists of the nucleic acid and an outer shell of protein. The simplest viruses contain only enough RNA or DNA to encode four proteins. The most complex can encode 100-200 proteins.¹



A vaccine is made from very small amounts of weak or dead germs that can cause diseases - for example, viruses, bacteria, or toxins. It prepares your body to fight the disease faster and more effectively so you won't get sick. Your immune system is always on patrol in your body. When it comes across an invading germ, it attacks that germ. This is called an immune response. Here's how an immune response works: (1) Your



immune system sounds the alarm so your body knows there's an infection. (2) It begins releasing antibodies to fight the germ. This process can take a few days. (3) The antibodies work to attack, weaken, and destroy the germ. (4) Afterwards, your immune system remembers the germ. If the germ invades again, your body can recognize it and quickly send out the right antibodies so you don't get sick! This protection against a certain disease is called immunity. In many cases, immunity lasts your whole life. When you get a vaccine, it sparks your immune response, helping your body fight off and remember the germ so it can attack it if the germ ever invades again. Vaccines often provide long-lasting immunity to serious diseases without the risk of serious illness.²

For this argumentative essay, you must take a stand on vaccinations. Below are the more specific requirements for this assignment:

1. Your paper must have a thesis statement that takes a stance of vaccines (see questions below and pick one).
2. Everything following your thesis statement must clearly work to support it.
3. There is no length requirement but it needs to be long enough to full argue your point.
4. I (Ms. BradyLong) am your audience but you will want to make sure you are writing enough so that I know you know what you are talking about. Do not skip key information because you know I understand viruses and vaccinations. Prove to me you understand them.
5. Your paper must be correctly formatted according to MLA standards (including citations).
6. You must cite all information gained from a source. If you had to look it up, you have to cite it.
7. You must cite peer-reviewed research paper (google scholar is a good place to start to find one of these). As many sources as possible should be from peer-reviewed papers.
 - Hon – At least 5 peer-reviewed
 - Ac – At least 1 peer-reviewed
8. Your final paper will be submitted hardcopy in class and on Turnitin.com.

Vaccinations are a hotly debated topic, there are many angles at which you can approach your argument. Here is a list of a few questions; you might want to pick one to focus your argument.

- Should vaccinations make mandatory for children across the country as well as worldwide?
- Vaccination: Is it a boon or curse for the modern civilization?
- Can vaccinations actually put our children at risk?
- What are the pros to not vaccinating?
- What are the various vaccination options available for children and can they in any way be harmful to children's overall health?
- Do vaccines really seem to work against viral and bacterial infection and are they really effective?
- Should the COVID-19 vaccine be required to attend on campus college classes?

¹ Lodish H, Berk A, Zipursky SL, et al. Molecular Cell Biology. 4th edition. New York: W. H. Freeman; 2000. Section 6.3, Viruses: Structure, Function, and Uses. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK21523/>

² "Vaccine Basics." Vaccines, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Dec. 2017, www.vaccines.gov/