Essay #1: The Illustration Essay

Write an illustration essay inspired by one of the following ideas OR an idea of your choice that your professor has approved. (Please note that these are broad ideas; you should form your own more specific topic and thesis.)

- “I don’t have enough time” is a common complaint of many people today.
- Many people appear obsessed with exercise (or diet).
- Incivility has become quite common in public places.
- New communication technologies help keep friends in close touch.
- Dedication is the secret of success for many athletes (or use any other field or occupation).
- Video games can take over people’s lives.
- Sometimes actions can have unintended consequences.
- Campus gambling assumes various forms.
- Many intelligent people lack common sense.
- Sleep deprivation is causing problems for many young people.
- Talk show hosts often leave much to be desired (or stimulate listeners to think).
- “Doing your own thing” does not always work out for the best.
- Not to decide is to decide.
- How we react to circumstances, not the circumstances themselves, often makes us unhappy.
- Today’s college student is _____________.
- Sometimes we need to take risks.
- Wanting more than we need can be destructive.
- Many people become obsessed with appearance.
- Technology can actually do more harm than good.
- Movies are better (or worse) now than ever.

Your essay must:
- Be formal in tone
- Include 3 Collin College related sources and a Works Cited page
- Be 2 ½-5 pages in length
- Follow MLA formatting guidelines and those set forth in the “Paper Guide” packet

Failure to adhere to formatting guidelines will result in a grade deduction of up to 10 points.