

February 2019

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Recommended Citation

Brewer, Dylan (2019) "To the Ends of the Page: Finishing a Paper vs. *Not Finishing*," *SWOSU Sayre Student Anthology*: Vol. 1 : Iss. 6 , Article 44.

Available at: https://dc.swosu.edu/sayre_student_anthology/vol1/iss6/44

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To the Ends of the Page

Finishing a Paper vs. Not Finishing

By Dylan Brewer

We all have choices to make. Do we finished our paper or the last level of *Final Fantasy*? Do we stay up all night tossing and turning, constantly thinking about our paper? Will our current grades be enough to balance out after this one failed assignment? Time, grade, stress, and effort are all factors in deciding on if to finish a paper.

Is the paper worth our time to go and complete? How long will it take to find sources? When is it due? All of these questions deal with the time used that we spend to craft a paper worthy of being turned in. Checking our sources, writing, rewriting, re-rewriting, spell check, and more take much of our time away. Some papers are shorter than others, so we must also remember that. Even if we were to just leave the quill dry of ink, there is still the amount of time we contemplated not finishing.

That all-important point is something we have all worried about before. A paper can make or break that “D” needed to pass or that “A” required to keep that 4.0 GPA. Even if the paper doesn’t turn out to be the best, those points will help. A missing paper is worth no points, but a poor paper is at least worth some. In high school, those with high grades are nerds, geeks, and dorks, but once the final bell rings, they can be seen out in the world succeeding even more.

It’s a lot of work to get that grade, but once all is said and done, was it really that stressful to sit down to write the paper? Sure you have to go look up information, cite sources, and check spelling and grammar, but looking back once it was done there was nothing to worry about. A paper finished is a paper with no more stress, however; a paper not even started is one that will loom in the back of the mind, even long after the grade has been given. That ever-haunting thought will always lurk in the shadows of the brain, slowly eating away.

“I don’t want to go to school today,” we all told our parents when we were younger. There is always something we don’t want to do, but what takes more effort, complaining about it or actually doing it? True, the assignment will take at least some effort, but in today’s day and time, how much effort can we expend to finish or not to finish? We don’t have to go to the ends of the earth, just the ends of the pages.

