Argumentative Essay Prompt: *Oscar Grant Shooting (Mistake or Murder??)*
Directions: Write an essay on the topic assigned below. Before you begin writing, read the passage carefully and plan what you will say. Your essay should be as well organized and as carefully written as you can make it.   100 points Should be two pages.

Bart Police Officer Johannes Mehserle shot Oscar Grant in the back after he was detained. Did Officer Mehserle commit murder or was the shooting a mistake?

Agree or disagree with the court's decision on Officer Mehserle's conviction of involuntary manslaughter. Support your position by referring to the passage and videos on the internet. Provide reasons and examples from your own experiences, prior covered law enforcement facts, articles, observations, and penal code definitions for murder and involuntary manslaughter. You must take a stand.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q2LDw5l_yMI&t=29s
Essay Planning Worksheet

Planning BEFORE Writing:

Introduction Paragraph
1. IN YOUR OWN WORDS, briefly explain the topic – provide some contextual background for the issue being discussed in the quotation.

2. IN YOUR OWN WORDS, what are the opposing sides of the issue? What would be the Counterclaim? (Why do some people agree, but some disagree?)

3. THESIS STATEMENT: What is your position on this issue? And, what are the two best reasons to support your point of view? (I agree or disagree with the court's decision because)

Body Paragraph 1: Start with a claim statement about your reason labeled (a) above & then provide examples and details to support your first reason:

   Counterclaim (what would someone who disagrees say?)**:**

   Rebuttal (how would you convince people who disagree that they are wrong?)**:**

Body Paragraph 2: Start with a claim statement about your reason labeled (b) above & then provide examples and details to support your second reason:

   Rebuttal (how would you convince people who disagree that they are wrong?)**:**

Conclusion Paragraph: Expand your argument without repeating it – make a new suggestion for change.