**Common Errors**

Each of you are being given back your Atomic Bomb Essay. You will have the chance to go through and correct your essay. Below is a list of common errors that come across a majority of your essays. It is your job to find those errors and fix them. In doing so, you’ll be given 10% back on your essay grade (i.e. if you received a 75%, you’ll earn an 85% instead). You’ll have the period to work on this. If you can, exchange your essay with someone else and correct one another’s essays.

**Format**

* Paragraph not properly indented
* Wrote from the center
* Thesis belongs in the introduction. Need to pick a side and defend it!

**Grammar**

* Comma after but and however and a date (ex: December 7, 1941,)
* Sentence structure (missing words, sentences incomplete)
* Using we, us, our, his, it, they. You need to define those terms.
  + Example: They bombed us (**WRONG)**. Japan bombed the United States (**CORRECT**).
* Don’t use I, my or anything that refers to you. It is not academic
* Periods, commas belong inside quotation marks, not outside of them.
* Rhetorical questions need a question mark
  + But did the United States really make the right decision?
* Refer to important people by their last names
* Capitalize titles, names, places
* U.S. not US
* When talking about the past, use past tense (ex: The U.S. dropping the bomb. NO! The U.S. dropped the bomb)
* When analyzing the past, use present tense (ex: Truman had a difficult decision to make, however, based upon circumstances beyond his control, he made the correct decision in dropping the bomb on Japan to end WWII.)
* It’s WWII **NOT** WW2

**Evidence**

* Missing citations
  + Where did you get your information from? Good info was found throughout all of your essays, but you need to cite the documents. It gives you credibility.
  + Example: As stated in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

(document name)

* Example: According to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

(author) (document name)