

### **Assigned Platform (3-min) Topics for December 2025**

**AI Agents (Informative or Persuasive):** AI agents are computer programs that can learn patterns and make decisions by processing large amounts of information. They help people by completing tasks faster and more accurately than humans can do alone. They are growing in importance because they reduce workloads and make complex jobs easier to manage.

Sample Thesis (Informative): "I believe... AI agents are interesting because they show how computers can learn to help people in many different tasks."

Sample Thesis (Persuasive – Opposing): "I believe... AI agents are undesirable because they may replace human jobs and create new risks when people depend on them too much."

**Airships (Informative):** Airships are large floating aircraft filled with gas that is lighter than air, allowing them to rise without using strong engines. They are being studied again because they use less fuel and create fewer emissions than many airplanes. Researchers believe they may support future transportation and scientific missions by offering a quieter and more environmentally friendly way to travel.

Sample Thesis: "I believe... airships are interesting because they show a different and more efficient way to travel through the sky."

**Butterfly Migration (Informative):** Butterfly migration is the long seasonal journey butterflies make to find better weather and safe places to lay eggs. They follow specific routes because they need the right temperature and food sources to survive. Scientists study these patterns to understand how climate and habitat changes affect the health of ecosystems.

Sample Thesis: "I believe... butterfly migration is interesting because it shows how small creatures can travel great distances to survive."

**Citizen Journalism (Informative or Persuasive):** Citizen journalism happens when ordinary people report events in real time using phones or social media. It spreads quickly because citizens post what they see immediately, often before professional journalists arrive. However, it raises concerns about accuracy because many reports are shared without checking facts or verifying details.

Sample Thesis (Informative): "I believe... citizen journalism is useful because it allows normal people to share important information with the world."

Sample Thesis (Persuasive – Opposing): "I believe... citizen journalism is undesirable because it can spread unverified information that confuses the public."

**Cultural Preservation (Persuasive):** Cultural preservation protects traditions, languages, stories, and customs that help communities understand who they are. These practices can disappear when families move, modernize, or stop teaching them to younger generations. Preserving culture keeps history alive and strengthens community identity.

Sample Thesis: "I believe... cultural preservation is desirable because it protects important traditions for future generations."

**Disinformation (Informative):** Disinformation is false information shared on purpose to change what people believe or how they act. It spreads easily because it is often designed to look real and to create strong emotions. Understanding disinformation helps communities protect themselves from harmful influence and make decisions based on facts.

Sample Thesis: "I believe... disinformation is important to understand because it strongly affects how people think and make decisions."

**Predictive Genetics (Persuasive):** Predictive genetics uses DNA tests to estimate a person's risk for certain future health conditions. Doctors use this information to suggest early treatments or lifestyle changes that may prevent illness. However, some people worry about privacy and how genetic data could be misused.

Sample Thesis: "I believe... predictive genetics is desirable because it can help people understand their health risks early."

**Assigned Platform (3-min) Topics for December 2025 (Continued...)**

**Rewilding (Persuasive):** Rewilding restores damaged environments by reintroducing plants and animals that once lived there. This process helps the land become healthier by rebuilding natural food chains and improving soil and water systems. Many people support rewilding because it strengthens ecosystems and protects endangered species.

Sample Thesis: "I believe... rewilding is desirable because it helps nature recover and become healthier."

**Undersea Cables (Informative):** Undersea cables are long, durable wires placed on the ocean floor to carry internet and communication signals across continents. They allow countries to connect quickly because signals travel through the cables faster and more reliably than through satellites. Most modern communication depends on these hidden systems, making them essential for global business, learning, and daily online activity.

Sample Thesis: "I believe... undersea cables are interesting because they power most of our global communication even though we never see them."

**Vertical Farming (Informative):** Vertical farming grows plants in tall indoor towers with controlled light, temperature, and water. This system uses less land because crops are stacked, and it uses less water because it recycles nutrients efficiently. Many cities support vertical farming because it produces fresh food close to where people live.

Sample Thesis: "I believe... vertical farming is useful because it helps grow food in places where space and resources are limited."