GATTACA writing assignment

You will be watching Gattaca and writing a persuasive essay regarding genetic engineering that is widespread in a society, as depicted in Gattaca. This is a minimum of four paragraphs. The first paragraph will give a brief summary of the movie plot and any relevant characters and their roles. This should be longer than the back of a dvd cover but it should not contain too much detail. What is the overall point to the movie and which characters and facts are important to the development of the purpose.

The second paragraph will contain three positive aspects of a society in which genetic engineering is the norm. What are the ramifications of the positive aspects. Remember, you can use the NOVA video and the movie for helpful ideas, but the reason they are positive needs to be EXPLAINED. Ex- “ genetic engineering would be good because then we can pick our children’s traits” is not explanatory and gives no details as to WHY this is good and what the results from picking traits would be.

The third paragraph will contain three negative aspects of genetic engineering. You must use the same parameters as for the positive traits. Why are they bad and what are the outcomes from these points.

The last paragraph you will give your opinion on genetic engineering and support it with the material presented in the previous paragraphs. You need to clearly state your position on societal genetic engineering and support it with valid logic. Not just “ I think genetic engineering is bad”.

The writing assignment MUST be typed with your name and science number on the top with the title Gattaca writing assignment.

This is worth 2 test grades- see the rubric provided to maximize your score.

PROJECT DUE \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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|  | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| general | Assignment is typed with name, science number and title. Rubric is attached to the last page with name on it | assignment is typed but missing name, science number or title | assignment is not typed or missing two of the aforementioned |
| paragraph 1 | paragraph 1 contains a succinct summary of the movie that contains All relevant details | paragraph 1 does not summarize the movie or gives too much extraneous detail or not enough information | paragraph 1 does not contain a summary or the synopsis is disjointed |
| paragraph 2 | paragraph 2 contains 3 positive aspects of societal genetic engineering | paragraph 2 contains only 2 positive aspects of societal genetic engineering | paragraph 2 contains only 1 positive aspects of societal genetic engin |
| paragraph 2 | the ramifications or explanation of the 3 positive aspects are logical and insightful | the ramifications or explanation of one of the 3 positive aspects are missing or illogical | the ramifications or explanation of the 3 positive aspects are missing or illogical |
| paragraph 3 | paragraph3 contains 3 negative aspects of societal genetic engineering | paragraph 3 contains only 2 negative aspects of societal genetic engineering | paragraph 3 contains only 1 negative aspects of societal genetic engineering |
| paragraph 3 | the ramifications or explanation of the 3 negative aspects are logical and well thought out | the ramifications or explanation of one of the 3 negative aspects are missing or illogical | the ramifications or explanation of the 3 negative aspects are missing or illogical |
| paragraph 4 | an opinion is clearly stated supporting or discounting use of selective genetic engineering in society | the opinion is not clearly given or both sides are supported | there is not opinion |
| paragraph 4 | the opinion is supported with at least three points of logic | the opinion is supported with at least two points of logic | the opinion is not supported with any logic |

Preplanning sheet

**P1- summary**

* This movie is about-
* The main characters are-
* The main plot of the movie is-
* Some important details of the story-
* What happens in the end-

**P2**

* Three positive outcomes that are a direct result of genetic engineering
* Why are they positive?
* How do these things benefit the citizens of Gattaca?

**P3**

* What are three negative outcomes of genetic manipulation?
* Why do you think they are bad?
* How do they hurt the members of that society?

**P4**

Which opinion do you think is more persuasive? Which facts do you feel lead you to this opinion?