ADDITIONAL TOPICS FOR PAPER 4

TOPIC Z

Even though the themes and actions in the “The Insider” are supposed to be based on “fact,” this does not necessarily mean the film presents the “literal truth.” For example, a number of tobacco companies have stated that the film is nothing more than a series of lies, intentional distortions and out-and-out deceptions.

Using the data presented in factual accounts like the MTBE essays, the “Merchants of Cool” and any other information you may find, discuss why you personally accept or believe the basic thesis and arguments of “The Insider.” (This does not mean that every scene and detail has to be “factually” correct.)

BLUE 2 OR GREEN TOPIC

On the surface, “The Inside” and “Josie and the Pussycats” seem to have nothing in common. One is a fairly slow-moving, fact-based docu-drama (directed by Michael Mann and featuring some of Hollywood’s biggest stars) that was nominated for a number of major Academy Awards®. The other is an MTV-style teen satire that is full of lightweight pop, gunky, slapsticky humor and mindlessly hysterical gum-chewing, orange-wearing fans. Write an essay in which you discuss why you believe these two films actually share a number of “serious” themes or messages.

NOTE: Blue students should follow the Blue guidelines this topic. Other students should follow the same guidelines as a Red topic.

SUGGESTION: Blue students who had problems following formatting guidelines for Paper 2-3 should seriously considering doing one of the other topics for Paper 4.