Source Report Specifics

Your source report describes and evaluates each of the five sources (from at least 3 different types of media) you will use to support your thesis in your research paper. I want to know precisely how you plan to use each source, how you evaluated it, and why you chose it. Your source report should include the following:

1. Correct MLA Works Cited Entry
   When you find a reliable, credible, relevant source, make sure to record all the information you need for the Works Cited entry. Note that different types of sources require different types of citing. Use your MLA handbook. Please use the required format: reverse indentation, double space, 12 pt. Times New Roman, *alphabetical order* (Hacker 412).

2. Description/Summary
   How will this source help you and contribute to both your and your reader’s understanding of the issues? Explain the credibility of the source. Why do you/should we believe it? If the source represents a counter argument, how will you use it in your refutation?

3. Explanation
   Choose an example of the support the source offers. Give quotes or data and tell how you plan to use them.

4. Comparison
   How does the information or the point of view of the source relate to other sources? Does it confirm, contradict, or offer something different? Why did you choose it?

In her article, “Energy and the Environment.” Mary H. Cooper describes how the Kyoto Protocol was born, and how it was initially met by President Clinton with a lot of enthusiasm, and then rather quickly phased out due to pressure from coal and oil companies. President Clinton told Congress, “If we fail to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, deadly heat waves and droughts will become more frequent, coastal areas will be flooded, economies will be disrupted.” Cooper then goes on to explain the Clean Air Act and all of its standards for emissions of 189 pollutants that contribute to smog. She also explains in detail the process of global warming and the mounting danger of the overproduction of carbon dioxide contributing to climate change. This article is similar to “Turning Down the Heat,” because it talks about the Kyoto Protocol, and what is required in order for it to take effect. This source helps supports my argument by addressing the doubts of skeptics and providing evidence that the climate is changing due to human activities, and that our country needs to find a proactive solution, beginning by signing the Kyoto Agreement.


This article from USA Today Magazine is a good example of a counter argument to the claim that I will be making in this paper. It describes President Bush’s view on the
subject and gives, in detail, the reasons why our government has not supported the Kyoto Protocol. The Bush Administration gives several reasons why the Protocol is not likely to be ratified by the United States; one of those reasons is that “Kyoto’s emission cuts will reduce U.S. gross domestic product between 3.6%-5.1% by 2010.” Also the Department of Energy estimates that Kyoto will cause gasoline prices to rise by 52% and the cost of electricity to go up by 86%. The information and point of view of this article is different from the majority of my sources, mainly because it presents the counter argument, and it gives specific data as to why Kyoto has not been met with much enthusiasm here in the States. Like “Bush and the Environment,” this article talks about Bush’s plan to address climate issues. By providing the alarming estimates that gas prices would increase more than they already have, and that the cost of electricity would rise dramatically, this article contributes to my understanding of the topic and will be a good source that represents the counter argument of my essay. Although I plan to refute the claims made in this article, it gives me a good understanding of where the opposition stands on the issue.