Prompt: After reading the article “Blackish,” write a 3 paragraph essay with an introduction, body and a conclusion that answers the following question:

What argument does the author make about racism in the show “Blackish?”

Write an introduction with an attention getter, background information about racism, and a thesis statement.

In your body, include a topic sentence, use specific evidence from the text to support your main idea, explain and analyze the evidence, and provide a concluding statement.

Your conclusion should summarize your main argument, restate your thesis statement, and include something new for your reader to think about.

Name______________________________
Date_____________Period______
Score___________
This is racism — served with a smile. “Black-ish,” the hit freshman ABC comedy series that features appealing characters in dumb situations, most of them African-Americans, I believe promotes ugly racial bigotry.

But don’t ask me. Ask Donald Trump.

“How is ABC Television allowed to have a show entitled ‘Black-ish’?” the real-estate developer and reality-TV babe, a white guy, tweeted in October. “Can you imagine the furor of a show, ‘White-ish’? Racism at highest level?”

If you won’t listen to Trump, who focused on the show’s jaw-dropping title, then read a petition posted on Change.org urging ABC to cancel “Black-ish.”

“We find it racist, socially damaging and offensive based on the concept that nonstereotypical black people are less their race than others, that hip hop culture is all blacks are supposed to embrace, and that culture and race are one and the same,” the petition reads.

Or, ask my kid.

When she attended a private school in Brooklyn, my daughter’s best friend was a black girl. I don’t think that my child, who is white, even noticed the superficial racial differences between her and her pal. That is, until the day that her fourth-grade teacher, a white man, lectured the inseparable girls, in earshot of their parents, telling them that they must never forget that their skins are of different hues.

I think that he meant well. But as I watched, an expression of utter
bewilderment overtook my daughter’s face as her innocence was stripped away.

Or, ask a barista.

How is ABC Television allowed to have a show entitled "Blackish"? Can you imagine the furor of a show, "Whiteish"! Racism at highest level?

Many Starbucks drink-slingers last month annoyed the coffee-selling chain’s customers nationwide by writing the words “Race Together” on cups, using a condescending, corporate-generated slogan in an effort to spark unnecessary and unhelpful conversations about race relations.

“Black-ish” brings about the same kind of racial lunacy, making people of all skin colors appear biased, clueless and, most of all, racist. The show presents tortured portrayals of African-Americans with money, pushing the false notion that affluent blacks become middle-class members of the bourgeoisie — folks derided as “bougie” (pronounced bhoo-shee) in the show’s parlance.

In the world of “Black-ish,” well-to-do black people are not black at all. They’re “black-ish.” All this is played for yuks.

I believe that the majority of Americans have moved beyond being punch lines in sick ethnic jokes. But I don’t make TV shows.

In “Black-ish,” Anthony Anderson, one of the show’s co-executive producers, plays Andre “Dre” Johnson Sr., a black version of the white, race-obsessed Archie Bunker character from the 1970s TV sitcom “All in the Family.” A successful advertising executive, Dre is married to a doctor, Rainbow, or “Bow” (Tracee Ellis Ross), whose mother is black and father white, which Dre apparently sees as a shortcoming. In several cringe-worthy scenes, he rubs his wife’s mixed-race parentage in her face.