Out of Class Essay #1: The Social Networking Community Debate

For the last few weeks, we have been reading, discussing, and analyzing social networks like facebook.com. Now that we are at the end of these discussions, it is time for you to take the ideas we have been discussing and write a paper that analyzes and takes a stand on one of the issues surrounding social networking. Please pick one of the following topics to write on:

Essay Questions:

1. Are Social Networks like Facebook real communities? Why/Why not? Please explain your answer in a 3-4 page essay that focuses on the topic, has a clear introduction that ends in a thesis, multiple body paragraphs that follow the PIE model, and a conclusion that explains the significance of your analysis. In this essay, you must use at least 2 quotes from the readings to support your position.

2. Are people who are on social networks entitled to privacy? Why/Why not? Please explain your answer in a 3-4 page essay that focuses on the topic, has a clear introduction that ends in a thesis, multiple body paragraphs that follow the PIE model, and a conclusion that explains the significance of your analysis. In this essay, you must use at least 2 quotes from the readings to support your position.

3. Do you think that employers and colleges should be able to judge you based on your Facebook page? Please explain your answer in a 3-4 page essay that focuses on the topic, has a clear introduction that ends in a thesis, multiple body paragraphs that follow the PIE model, and a conclusion that explains the significance of your analysis. In this essay, you must use at least 2 quotes from the readings to support your position.

Essay Requirements:
- An introduction that provides context on the topic, eases the reader into your essay, and has a “hook” that grabs people’s attention
- A thesis statement or controlling idea that takes a strong stand
- Transitional topic sentences that are clear, provocative, and develop your thesis and provide unity in your essay
- Body paragraphs that follow the PIE paragraph model
- Plenty of support from our text: Remember you must have a minimum of 2 quotes from our readings.
- For each quote, please use the quote sandwich model (Lead-in, quote, and analysis of quote) discussed in-class
- Some analysis of all your supporting examples
- A conclusion that offers some ideas about what can be done about the situation
- Strong sentences that are both grammatically correct and sophisticated
- Use proper MLA in-text citations and Works Cited entries.

Readings for this Unit:
- “Social Networks: Benefits Validate”
- “Editorial: Facebook, Single Identities and the Right to be Anonymous”
- “The Web Means the End of Forgetting”

DUE DATES:
- April 19: Your Thesis Statement for Essay #2
- April 21: your Outline for Essay #2 and Introduction Paragraph
- April 26: your First Draft
- April 25th-28th: WRC/Conference Days
- April 28: Your Final Draft with all previous Writing must be in a folder.
PAPER FORMAT:
1. 750-1000 words or about 3-4 pages.
2. All drafts must be typed and double-spaced.
3. Size 12 Times New Roman Font
4. Have Name, Class, Date, Assignment, and Topic in upper left hand corner.
5. A title that is not GENERIC
6. All drafts, pre-writing, and outline must be turned in with the final copy of the essay

A Successful Essay Will Have

Introduction:
- A title specific to the topic
- An attention getter
- Background on the topic (please make it clear which prompt you are answering)
- End with your thesis
- Include a clearly stated thesis (your opinion – your 1-2 sentence response to the essay prompt) which speaks to the “so what” of the issue and is not merely a list plan of development.
- Should be at least a ½ page

PIE PARAGRAPHS/BODY:
- Topic sentence that is related to the thesis
- Supporting evidence
- Quotes from the text (Remember to cite the quotes)
- Consideration of and rebuttal against the other side of the topic
- Each PIE PARAGRAPH should be ½ page

Conclusion:
- DO NOT bring up a new topic
- Explain how your body paragraphs proved your thesis
- A suggestion of the consequences of your position for society, individuals, what you want to happen in the future, etc.
- The Conclusion should be at least a ½ page

Works Cited:
- Please include a Works Cited page at the end of your paper.
- Please make sure the Works Cited page follows MLA formatting rules.
Debate Outline

1. Topic ____________________________

2. Introduction
   a. ________________________________
   b. THESIS: ____________________________

PIE 1:
   o ________________________________
     ▪ ________________________________
     ▪ ________________________________
     ▪ ________________________________
     ▪ ________________________________
   o ________________________________
     ▪ ________________________________
     ▪ ________________________________
     ▪ ________________________________
     ▪ ________________________________
   PIE 2:
     o ________________________________
       ▪ ________________________________
       ▪ ________________________________
       ▪ ________________________________
       ▪ ________________________________
     o ________________________________
       ▪ ________________________________
       ▪ ________________________________
       ▪ ________________________________
       ▪ ________________________________
3. Conclusion
   a. ________________________________
   b. ________________________________
   c. ________________________________
   d. ________________________________
   e. ________________________________