**Last Two Essay Assignments**

**Essay 4: Entertainment Media**

In-class essay 3/9 in room AT 305

Write a one page outline in advance (maximum 200 words) and use it during the essay.

**Topics (choose one):**

1. In “Everything Bad is Good for You: Games,” Johnson argues that video games cultivate valuable mental skills. To what extent to do agree with this claim?
2. Choose “Face of an Angel,” or “In Character.” To what extent to you agree with the author when he argues that Hollywood is still racist? Use one or two recent American films to support your argument.
3. In the article about Britney Spears, “Hit Her Baby, One More Time,” the writer describes a disturbing tendency for women and girls in Hollywood to get lots of media attention for doing humiliating and stupid things, giving us all an opportunity to look down at them and feeding a cultural tendency to demean women. How accurate is this description, and does it still hold true today?

**Organization**:

In the introduction, provide an interesting lead-in, name the article title (in quotation marks), author, and give the basic scenario of the article (2-3 sentences). Your thesis should say WHY you think the writer is correct or mistaken in his or her theory about the media.

Each body paragraph that follows (3-4 of them) should try to prove why your response to the article makes sense and is based on evidence and examples. You must use at least two quotes, and “sandwich” your quotes (explained in class). Additional examples could come from your experience or the film that you are using to test the author’s thesis. Set up your examples by giving some context before you show us the scene or quote you will discuss, and explain the meaning of all examples.

The conclusion should provide closure without repeating.

* Stay calm and follow your outline; you have the whole class meeting to do this.
* You can put important vocabulary in your outline so you don’t have to search for words.
* You can use the book and a paper dictionary.
* Proofread before you turn it in

No internet, no email, no notes besides your outline and your book, no electronic dictionaries.

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**Content:** Write an essay of more than two pages (min 600 words) to look back on your progress in writing this quarter and explain why you are ready to go to EWRT1A. This goes in the front of your portfolio, as an introduction to your work for the teachers evaluating the portfolio.

* Review all the work you've done for the class. Consider why you chose the essays in your portfolio and how they show your readiness for EWRT1A. Give specific examples from these essays to show your improvements.
* Discuss what you have learned in EWRT 211. This might include practice in organization, analysis, development, vivid examples, construction of better sentences, proofreading, writing process, outlining, paragraph structure, quote sandwiches, and so on.
* Include how your writing has changed as a result of what you have learned in this class. Remember to provide specific evidence for your claims—**quote your own errors and corrections, or name the essay and paragraph where readers could find an example in your portfolio.**
* What still needs improvement? Write about what you'd still like to work on with your writing. Remember that all of us are still trying to be better writers, so what are you going to focus on in 1A and beyond?

**Audience:** De Anza English teachers

**What we're looking for in the reflective essay:**

* Clear organization
* Well-developed, focused paragraphs
* Specific examples, details
* Well-constructed sentences
* Correct grammar and punctuation

**Due: This essay is due as part of your portfolio on Monday 3/23 in my office at 1:30**.