Essay #1: Descriptive/ Narrative

*Stare. It is the way to educate your eye, and more. Stare, pry, listen, eavesdrop. Die knowing something. You are not here long.*

–Walker Evans

Choose **one** of the following two prompts for your essay of **450-550 words** (about 2 pages):

**1.** Take a subway ride and get off at a stop you are not familiar with. Explore the new environment, pen in hand, soaking in as many keenly observed **details** as humanly possible! Then, back at home, write an essay of **at least five substantive paragraphs** (including an introduction, three body paragraphs, and a conclusion), in which you compare and contrast this neighborhood with your own.

**2.** Many of the authors we have read so far discuss the ways New York City neighborhoods have changed over the years, and their personal attitudes towards these changes. Write a memoir essay of **at least five substantive paragraphs** (including an introduction, three body paragraphs, and a conclusion) about changes you have noticed in a neighborhood you know well (not necessarily in New York). What are these changes, **specifically**, and what do they mean to you, personally?