UPDATED ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

Fall 2012

Composition 1

Prof. Scanlan

Essay 1: Picking Your Favorite: Or, What Is Rhetorical Success?

After reading the nine articles on education, choose your favorite, and then write an essay in which you explain why it is your favorite. We will use the term rhetorical success to help explore the idea of what makes something your favorite. By using the term rhetorical success, we will analyze how an essay works to convince you. For example, does one article use more humor or more facts? Rhetorical success is based on writing techniques. Success, for this essay, therefore, is not based on right versus wrong, but rather, success is based on the effective and persuasive use of facts, structure, authority, emotion, and other “tools.”

Article Authors:

Isaac Asimov

Salvatore Scibona

Howard Gardner

Wallis and Steptoe:

DeWitt Clinton

Esmeralda Santiago

Bilal Rahmani

Colin Powell

Alfred Lubrano

Your essay will be graded in terms of **FOUR** major features:

 1. A clear introduction, title, thesis, and method.

 2. Concrete nouns, well-structured sentences, and clear paragraphs.

 3. Incorporating at least two direct quotations from the article into your essay.

 4. Clear reasons for rhetorical success and precise use of terms.

Details: Your essay must be between 600 – 700 words long. It must be typed, double-spaced, and use a standard 12-point font. Please use spell-check and grammar-check. Use standard 1-inch margins and MLA format (see the Purdue OWL on our OpenLab website for guidance).

**Due Dates:**

**Please note updated due dates:**

Sept 13: First Draft due in class. Two pages minimum.

Sept 20: Final Draft Due in class: in folder.