

**DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ON THIS PAPER!**

Please answer the following questions. Don't let your classmates see your answers. When you are finished crumple the piece of paper up into a small ball.

What was your favorite childhood toy? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your favorite movie? \_\_\_\_\_

Which came first the chicken or the egg? Why?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What was your favorite cartoon character and why? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the weirdest thing you have ever eaten?

\_\_\_\_\_

Which of these two is more real: pirates or ninjas? \_\_\_\_\_

Is it better to be poor and honest or rich and dishonest? \_\_\_\_\_

If you were made ruler of the world tomorrow, what is the first thing you would do?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Explanatory and Narrative 1  
8:30-10:00 Monday and Wednesdays  
April 6th- May 29th

This class is designed to help you become a better writing and critical thinker. We will be engaging in many classroom discussions prior to our writing exercises. In order to make sure that all discussions are productive and meaningful to the classroom, we need to collaborate to create a set of guidelines/standards for classroom discussions. We also need to choose the areas of discussion that we agree are appropriate/interesting for the classroom and those that we do not think are appropriate or interesting. That being said, I would like you first to have a conversation with the people in your group. First, decide on who in your group wants the following jobs.

Job 1 Recorder: This person is in charge of writing down the groups ideas and responses.

Job 2 Timekeeper- This person is in charge of keeping the group on track and finishing assignments within the time limits.

Job 3 Discussion facilitator- This person is in charge of eliciting responses from the group, making sure everyone contributes and that no one person take over the group.

If your group has more than three people, assign the role of recorder to more than one person.

All group members must contribute their ideas to the discussion.

Recorder 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Recorder 2: \_\_\_\_\_

Time keeper: \_\_\_\_\_

Discussion facilitator: \_\_\_\_\_

Now get with your group and answer questions 1 and 2. You will have 7 minutes.

1. What sort of things do people do in public discussions that they shouldn't? List as many things as possible.

2. What are some qualities or personality traits that successful people have? List as many things as possible.

Before sharing with your group list four things that you would not like to discuss in class on a post it note and then crumple it up.

Then on a separate post it note list four things that you would find interesting to discuss, learn and write about in class. Also crumple this post it note into a small ball.

Then get up and walk your pieces of paper over to the bowl and place them in.

As a class we will share the ideas of everyone in class, then the class will rearrange into new groups. Each new group will be responsible for compiling all of the information together to make a set of guidelines for class discussions. It is up to the group to decide whether your guidelines will be a set of rules, expectations, a student-teacher contract, or some other format. You will have until 10 minutes before the end of class to submit a product.