

EngWr 482—Posting Guidelines

The basic structure of these postings is to move from summary to analysis; the analysis functions to explain—and *demonstrate*—the significance of the ideas summarized.

Summary:

- Identify main ideas
- No examples
- No opinions
- Follows the author's organization
- Paraphrases (uses your own words, not quotes)

Postings:

1. Select a phrase, a clause, but *no more* than a single sentence that you find significant within the assigned text. I will reject longer passages and quotes.
2. *Paraphrase your selection*, framing your paraphrase within a specific context. (And do NOT forget to parenthetically reference the source of your information.) This paraphrase should highlight the ideas you will address in your posting.
3. Next, explain in detail why you find the ideas significant, demonstrating your understanding by providing specific examples that illustrate the ideas—in other words, SHOW ME precisely how to see what you want me to see; do NOT simply TELL what to see—show me. The analytical section of your posting will weave facts and detailed examples together with reasoned explanations.
4. The length of your postings will undoubtedly grow over the course of the semester as you gain a greater understanding of focus and analysis, but initially, an adequate response should be no less than 300 to 400 words. I do not want fluff or quotes; show me your *thinking process*.

Scoring:

- If the response offers little more than a summary, repeating what the author has written, it will receive about half the possible points—less if you deposit quotes.
- If I find a summary/paraphrase set within a context AND a sequence of claims that seek to explain significance, the posting will receive 60% to 70% of the possible points.
- To receive the majority of the possible points, the response must develop the significance portion, supplying specific examples and explanations of how the examples demonstrate the paraphrased ideas.
- Points earned for any posting will be commensurate with the completeness of the analysis.
- I do NOT have to agree with your analysis, but I must be able to understand *why* you make your claims.