English W131 Elementary Composition

Essay 3: Research-based Analysis

Description: 1,250-1,750 words (5-6 pages), double-spaced, plus a separate MLA-format Works Cited page

Sources: 1) Photograph from MT6

2) Fox's "'Out the Country"

3) Two to three additional sources from MT6

Total Points: 300

Due Dates: Rough draft (3 copies) due **Mon, 4/23**

Final draft due Fri, 4/27

Remember: turn in two copies of the final draft, the rough draft, and the peer review sheets

The Assignment

Building on your analysis in Microtheme 5 and your research for Microtheme 6, answer your Inquiry Question by advancing an original interpretation of a moment, figure, or phenomenon as it is represented in your photograph. Synthesize and apply the most useful sources from your annotated bibliography to support, develop, and complicate your analysis. Your thesis should evolve throughout your essay, as you put your sources to new use in complicating and expanding your main claim.

Strategies

- Return to MT5 and MT6. What ideas/questions/concerns do these the texts from your annotated bibliography bring to the table? Decide on a point of entry that identifies the key issues you intend to unpack and analyze.
- You need not account for every detail in the photo. Successful analyses will say more about less ("10 on 1"). Focus on the "juicy" details to analyze how the photo represents an issue.
- Use your sources in the service of supporting and complicating your main claim. Put your sources in conversation with each other (WA 276), and find your own role in that conversation as well (WA 278).
- Evolve your thesis (WA 139-45). Remember that your additional sources may align with, highlight, and/or complicate your "reading" of the initial texts.

Criteria for Evaluation

- 1. Does the essay have an evolved thesis that argues for an answer to the inquiry question by establishing a relationship between the photograph and essays?
- 2. Do additional synthesized sources support, complicate, and/or extend the main claim? Does the writer create and participate in a conversation between the sources?
- 3. Does the essay demonstrate sufficient analysis of details in the service of a larger claim?
- 4. Does the essay have clear organization, fully developed paragraphs, and transitions that contribute to a logical flow of ideas?