

## Assignment #19

PREPARE for small group workshops.

### Print out and read your workshop partners' essays before class.

- Make marginal notes and comments, and write 2-3 paragraphs of comments.
- Print out your comments and bring them to class—I will collect them after the workshop.

Here are some things to pay attention to in reading and commenting on these drafts:

- Does the **introduction** clearly forecast what this essay is about?
- Is there a clear **inquiry question**?
- Either in the introduction or toward the end of the essay, is there a clear **thesis** statement?
- **Respond to the thesis**: might it need to be modified, made clearer or more complex?
- Does the essay use **evidence** well—i.e., is there a variety of kinds of evidence? Sufficient evidence? Is the evidence convincing?
- How about the writer's **reasoning**—is it clear and convincing?
- Does it seem like there is **something at stake** in this essay—that something matters?
- The essay's **structure**: Are the sections effective? Are points well connected? Do they build in a way that makes the reader's journey, and its end, satisfying?
- **Voice and audience**: Does the writer keep her or his audience in mind? Does s/he explain enough? Can you distinguish the writer's voice and ideas from the voices, ideas and information of sources?
- **Integrating sources**: In this draft, are sources introduced, credited, and identified in a way that flows smoothly? Are all sources that need credit cited?
- **Mechanics**: Is the essay formatted correctly? Does it appear to have been proofread? (Note: while you may note obvious problems, do NOT spend much time or space "copy editing" your partners' drafts—focus instead on substance.)

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21W.015 Writing and Rhetoric: Writing about Sports  
Fall 2013

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