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21W.777 The Science Essay
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Homework #14

Due Thursday 4/3

For Next Class: READ our final two science essays:

- Dennis Overbye’s “Remembrance of Things Future,” which is about the science of time travel. Overbye writes on physics topics for the *New York Times*; this essay appeared in the collection “Best American Science and Nature Writing 2006.”
- Michael Pollan’s “Unhappy Meals,” which first appeared in the *New York Times Magazine* 28 January 2007. Here is a link to the article, via his website:

<http://www.michaelpollan.com/write.php>

This article grew into Pollan’s current book, *In Defense of Food*.

We will spend most of our class time on Pollan’s essay. We are reading these essays as a way of beginning to think of how to put together a longer, research-based science essay.

For Class Discussion: Pollan’s essay is extremely ambitious, and its argument has many levels. Notice especially what Pollan is arguing, how he makes his argument—both the shape of the essay and the evidence he uses—and how he keeps readers involved (it’s a long essay!).

I would also like to hear what questions about research and evidence these essays raise for you.

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