

Assignments

Week 1, beginning 1/22 /2008:

Tuesday:

- We'll discuss the syllabus and the structure and goals of the course.
- We'll determine who's in the class and introduce ourselves, which will begin our process of learning the names of everyone. On either this Thursday or Tuesday of next week, I'll take your pictures and place them on my site with your first names so that all of you can learn everyone's name and do well on your name quiz, which you'll take after we've had plenty of practice.
- I'll present a short lecture on checkmark story structures in which I'll talk about the structure of story with a beginning, middle and end. Critical to such a story is a conflict, which usually involves trouble and which is good for the story because it increases a reader's interest.
- I'll then ask you to brainstorm a story that happened to you recently that involved a conflict.

Homework due Thursday:

1. If you're not yet registered for the class, make sure you do that either online or in person.
2. Purchase required texts, a composition book for your journal, and a folder or loose-leaf binder in which you will keep all your work.
3. To become familiar what's available online and to earn extra credit, go to the site listed above, Qcounty.com, and follow the link in the upper right-hand corner to Solano College classes and the link to Spring 2008. Select your class and then follow the link to First Visit. Follow the directions you'll find there to send me an email. Don't forget to include your name!

Thursday:

- Make sure that you've brought all your required materials to class.
- We'll begin looking at your *Sentence-Combining Workbook* by doing some of the exercises in the first chapter.
- We'll then continue on with our discussion of stories and conflict, and I'll ask you to write in class about an experience that involved a conflict. This will be a one-paragraph writing sample that I'll collect so that I can assess your writing over the weekend.

Homework due Next Tuesday:

1. Read pages 28 through 33 in *America Now* on opinion ads.
2. In your journal, record the date and your impressions of the image on page 30. Are you familiar with the histories of both of these men? What point is the ad trying to make? Do you find the ad effective or ineffective? What do you think the creators of the ad, the ACLU, want you to do?
3. Bring to class an ad in a newspaper or magazine that has had an impact on you.



"Calvin and Hobbes" by Bill Watterson.