

**ESSAY 1: YOUR CONSUMER LIFE**

**Writing Exercise 2**

**Due:** Tues, 9/6

Reading: "Popular Signs: Or, Everything You Always Knew about American Culture (But Nobody Asked)" (SoL 1).

You should accustom yourself to taking notes, finding the author's main point, identifying supporting evidence and picking out relevant quotes AS YOU READ. Underline important sentences or words and make a note in the margin. If you do not wish to write in your book, make notes on a piece of paper in your journal AS YOU READ.

Writing Exercise:

Today, we discussed various strategies for summarizing an essay, including how to find the author's main point or thesis statement and restate those key ideas *in your own words*. Based on our discussion, summarize "Popular Signs." Remember, a summary should be brief and should synthesize the author's main ideas.

Page Length: 2-4 paragraphs

Each paragraph should contain at least 3-4 sentences. Include the author and essay title in your summary.

Administrative Notes:

- ▶ This assignment needs to be typed, double-spaced with one inch margins.
- ▶ Type your name, the date and Writing Exercise 2, Essay 1 on your written assignment.
- ▶ Type your name and the page number in the upper right corner of every page.
- ▶ Give this exercise an original title (of your creation).
- ▶ Staple the pages together. (DO NOT FOLD OR PAPERCLIP YOUR PAGES.)
- ▶ Proofread everything before you turn it in. There should be no spelling or typographical errors.