

**ESSAY 1: YOUR CONSUMER LIFE**

**Writing Exercise 5**

**Due:** Tues, 9/15

Reading: Read Hacker, Section C4, "Writing Paragraphs" (23-36)

Writing Exercise:

You have been discussing, thinking about and witnessing consumer culture as it manifests in people's appearances. We've read 3 different essays on this consumer culture and have come to some interesting conclusions. For this exercise, you need to write a letter to a friend discussing your ideas on consumer culture. Refer to your earlier writing exercises for details, evidence and ideas. For additional evidence, use at least 2 quotes from one of the essays that we've read on this topic, quoting, summarizing, analyzing or arguing with/against an author's ideas. What is it that you would like to tell your friend? Create a letter that is informative and analytical. Avoid simply summarizing events or essays. In other words, use your critical voice!!

You **may not** let your friend know that this letter is an assignment. This means that you have to figure out how to keep your reader interested and engaged throughout the letter. How are you going to draw him or her into your thoughts and arguments? How will you keep your friend from stopping midway through the letter? (Be creative!) Though this is a letter to someone you know, please use proper language, grammar and citation methods.

This assignment needs to be turned in (as usual) at our next class meeting. **AND** you need to email the letter to your friend (before our next class meeting)! Add my email as a recipient to the letter. **For each day that you do not email, you will lose a grade step on the final draft of this essay.**

Page Length: 3 pages (minimum)

Administrative Notes:

- ▶ This assignment needs to be typed, double-spaced with one inch margins.
- ▶ Type your name, the date and Writing Exercise 5, 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.

**Writing Tips**

- ▶ Use signal phrases to introduce a quote.
- ▶ Include the author's name and essay title.
- ▶ Indicate page number in parenthesis.
- ▶ Place punctuation inside quotation marks.
- ▶ Analyze the quote & connect it to your idea.
- ▶ Use your critical voice!