

English 1A – Composition
Fall 2006, San José State University
Section 01: MW 07:30-08:45, SH 238

Essay #4 (out-of-class exemplification)

Due Date:

- **Wednesday, October 4th:** Bring one copy of your final essay to class. Additionally, **upload your essay to TurnItIn.com before coming to class.** Your essay will be considered **late** if you hand the hard copy to me before uploading the electronic copy to TurnItIn.com.

Instructions

- Refer to the “MLA Document Formatting Guidelines” handout for instructions on creating your essay document. The handout outlines the font type and font size, spacing, and margin requirements, among other information.
- Give a descriptive title to your essay. “Essay #4” is not a descriptive title!
- As with all essays, pay close attention to organization. Make sure your essay has an introduction, a clear thesis, supporting paragraphs, and a conclusion.
- I **strongly suggest** you discuss your thesis and initial outline with me before you write your final draft, especially if organization was an issue for you in previous graded essays. I will review thesis statements and outlines during office hours or via email until the evening of October 2nd. The sooner you know your thesis and outline, the more feedback you can receive.
- Your essay should be approximately **1000-1200 words** (3-4 typed pages).
- Select **ONE** of the topics from the list below (Option #1 **or** Option #2 **or** Option #3) and write an essay using exemplification as the main means for supporting your thesis. Include details, narration, and descriptive language as appropriate.

Option #1

Write an essay in which you communicate to the reader your own formula for success in college. You may wish to discuss issues such as time management, maintaining energy, learning to relax, adjusting to independence, and so on. Use examples from your own experience to support your formula for success.

Option #2

Imagine you have completed a study on the use of a particular widget and you are now reporting your findings for a supervisor. Write an essay that discusses the reasons for testing the widget, the successes and failures you encountered while testing the widget, and whether or not you would recommend the use of the widget in the future.

Option #3

In the essay “Innovation,” Phil Patton discusses ten innovations. Choose two innovations from his list which you believe are the most important or influential, and write an essay about how society would be different if these innovations had never come about. Be sure to use examples to support your selections.