



# THE ROUGH DRAFT



Fresno City College Writing and Reading  
Center

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## Perspectives Piece

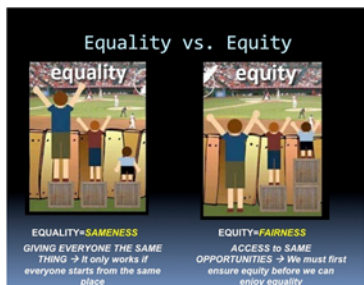
### Equity at Fresno City College

By: Tabitha Villalba

Recently, you may have heard the word, “Equity,” in regards to student success. Specifically, the state chancellor’s office has allocated millions of dollars to focus “on increasing access, course completion, ESL and basic skills completion, degrees, certificates and transfer for all students as measured by success indicators linked to the CCC Student Success Scorecard, and other measures developed in consultation with local colleges” (*Student Equity Fact Sheet*, January 2014). Fresno City College developed its Student Equity Plan in 2014, and tutoring is one of the strategies outlined that helps impact successful course completion.

#### An Explanation

The term “Equity” can be interpreted in many different ways. For our purposes, the term means to level the playing field. See the image below ([wisdom-square.com](http://wisdom-square.com)).



Community colleges have been asked to look carefully at their data for disproportionately. Colleges must compare the highest performing group within various categories, including course completion, degree/transfer, etc. to all other groups (gender, race, ethnicity, basic skills/developmental, DSP&S, Veterans, Foster Youth, etc.). Using a ratio analysis (80%-rule), if the group that is being compared is below the 80% ratio of the highest performing group, then they would be considered a disproportionately impacted group. Needless to say, at FCC, there are large groups of students that fall under that category.

#### The Plan

Within FCC’s Student Equity Plan, there are several planned activities that directly support disproportionate students, including tutoring and supplemental instruction. Beginning January 2015, PASS (Peer Assisted Study Sessions) has been funded out of Equity funds and has grown over 400%. The program has preliminary data showing that it is has a positive impact on “the numbers.”

You may have also noticed many new faces on campus: counselors, coordinators, and support staff. Equity is helping pay for people to work more closely with students so that they better understand how to achieve their goals.

The funding for Equity is ongoing (currently). FCC will be tracking the progress of its students based on the Plan and the number of students within the disproportionate groups. Keep your eyes open, folks – there will be more to report on soon.

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## Words of Wisdom

By Athena Keobounnam

“Never give up until you’ve given out all your very best. Its better to fail trying than to wonder what could have happened if you tried” –J. Cole

J. Cole is one of my favorite rappers, not only for his catchy songs and beats, but

also for his lyrics and the meaning he puts behind his music. This quote stood out to me because it is very motivating and it really makes you think. Sometimes we struggle to reach our dreams and goals, but it is through persevering that we reach or accomplish those goals. At times we may feel frustrated

or tired and may want to give up, but coming from personal experience one of the worst feelings is to regret what could have happened instead of trying and failing. That is why I try to live by this quote on a day-to-day basis and to give my 100% best with whatever I do. (continued on page 2)



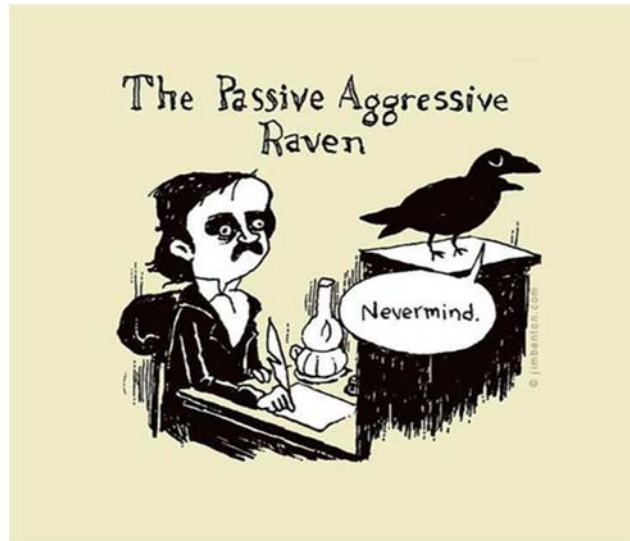


## Comic of the Month



"BUT IF YOU DON'T LEARN TO READ AND WRITE, HOW ARE YOU EVER GOING TO TEXT?"

Carpenter, Dave. "Education." *Cartoons*. Web. 21 September 2015.



Benton, Jim. "The Passive Aggressive Raven." *Neotoma*. Web. 21 September 2015.

Comics selected by Tabitha Harrington

### Words of Wisdom Cont.

### Grammar Bytes

At the Writing and Reading Center, we understand that there are many students of many different backgrounds from different countries, socioeconomic backgrounds, and cultures and that English is not always the first language. We also understand that English is one of the hardest languages to learn. Even though the journey to become a better English writer, reader, or speaker may be tough, the tutors at the Writing and Reading Center are here to address those problems and difficult times in order to help everyone achieve their goals.

By Nicolas Quintana

Comma splices are a common problem for writers. A comma splice is two independent clauses that are separated using a comma. There are three easy ways to fix comma splices:

**Comma Splice Example:** I went to the Writing and Reading Center, the tutor helped me with my paper.

1. Add a period between the clauses.

- I went to the Writing and Reading Center. The tutor helped me with my paper.

2. Add an appropriate conjunction between the clauses.

- I went to the Writing and Reading Center, **and** the tutor helped me with my paper.

3. Add a semi-colon between the clauses.

- I went to the Writing and Reading Center; the tutor helped me with my paper.



By Kevin L. Carrillo

MLA

### Citing an Anthology

Have you ever needed to cite a story, poem, or speech for a class that was in one big book as a collection? It can be confusing, but knowing how to do so can be invaluable for any number of classes in college. It is actually a pretty straightforward citation but, strangely enough, it is different citing an *entire* anthology versus citing just a work *in* an anthology.

If you needed to cite only *one work* from an anthology, the format is as follows:

Last name, First name. "Title of Essay." *Title of Collection*. Ed. Editor's Name(s). City of Publication: Publisher, Year. Page range of entry. Medium of Publication.

An Example of this from the Purdue OWL website is this:

Harris, Muriel. "Talk to Me: Engaging Reluctant Writers." *A Tutor's Guide: Helping Writers One to One*. Ed. Ben Rafter. Portsmouth: Heinemann, 2000. 24-34. Print.

Got a poem or short story? Here's another example provided from the Purdue OWL website:

Burns, Robert. "Red, Red Rose." *100 Best-Loved Poems*. Ed. Philip Smith. New York: Dover, 1995. 26. Print.

Let's say you needed to cite an ENTIRE periodical, here's another example directly from the Purdue OWL website:

Hill, Charles A., and Marguerite Helmers, eds. *Defining Visual Rhetorics*. Mahwah: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, 2004. Print.

### Citing a Written or Typed Letter

Communicating through letters in the mail may be being phased out, but what if you're trying to cite what your great grandmother wrote to you when you sent a letter to her about your family history? Letters are still very important even today for people who want to get a glimpse into the past, so how do you cite them? The formula is actually very simple, but there is a special rule you have to follow regarding *how* the letter was written: you have to write "TS" for typescript if it was typed (on a computer or typewriter) or "MS" for manuscript (if it was hand-written) after the date. Here is the format:

Author's Last name, Author's First name. Letter to the author. Date of Letter. TS/MS.

Pretty simple and logical. Here is an example of a *typed* letter I could cite:

Obama, Barack. Letter to author. 9 November 2008. TS.

Here's another example of a citation of a letter that was *hand written*:

Biden, Joseph. Letter to author. 13 August 2015. MS.



By Rebekah Olson

The WRC is proud to name Samantha An as our Tutee of the Month for her consistent dedication to her education and enthusiasm towards working with us. Samantha never fails to come into a session prepared and full of ideas for her assignment, never allowing herself to be a passive participant during our time together. She regularly schedules appointments with us and always takes the advice we give her to heart, putting real thought into everything we work on. She is often able to grasp what her instructors want from her before coming in and works with us to brainstorm ideas and organize how she wants to express herself through her writing. Her vocabulary also continues to expand, improving her text analysis skills and adding to the depth of her writing. Though we often see her in the evening after a long day of work and classes, she always approaches her work with determination and enthusiasm. We are very proud of Samantha for all of her efforts and hope to continue collaborating with her for the rest of her time at Fresno City College.

## Words of Knowledge

By Molly Calloway

**Catacomb** -- an underground cemetery, especially one consisting of tunnels and rooms with recesses dug out for coffins and tombs

Ex: All Roman catacombs were located outside city walls since it was illegal to bury a dead body within the city.

**Insidious** -- operating or proceeding in an inconspicuous or seemingly harmless way but actually with grave effect

Ex: Linda gave the impression that she wanted to be Mako's friend, but her true agenda in gaining Linda's trust was far more insidious in nature.

**Oscillate** -- to swing or move to and fro, as a pendulum does

Ex: The gaslight fell yellow on it and the little statue seemed to swim, to oscillate and illumine.

**Saccharine** -- very sweet to the taste; sugary - or exaggeratedly sweet or sentimental

Ex: If his words are too idealistic, they will seem hollow or saccharine.

**Miry** -- swampy, marshy, slimy soil of some depth or deep mud

Ex: He went down alone into the horrible pit and miry clay.

## Tutor and Staff Bios



Amanda Kendzora is a supervisor in the Writing and Reading Center at Fresno City College. She holds a B.A. in English, M.A in Old Testament, and a J.D. from San Joaquin College of Law. Amanda is currently waiting on her results from the California Bar Exam, which will qualify her to be an attorney. In the meantime, she works as a law clerk at Wagner, Jones, Kopfman, and Artenian, where the focus is on class action lawsuits, employment discrimination, and personal injury claims. Amanda is passionate about human trafficking and hopes to work toward promoting awareness of and eradicating the sex slave trade. She is an active member of Delta Theta Phi Law Fraternity, the Hollis G. Best Senate. When Amanda is not at the law firm or supervising in the WRC, she enjoys reading, Netflix binging with her husband, and volunteering with the Fresno Philharmonic.



## Tutor and Staff Bios Cont.



Molly Callaway has been working at the WRC since the spring of 2015 semester. After several years exploring the enchanting world of customer service, she is back in school with a much clearer idea of what she wants from the experience. She is currently an art major and hopes to transfer to a college that offers a competitive, animation-specific program where she will either go into character animation or storyboarding. After she finishes school, her dream is to work for DreamWorks Animation, her favorite studio. Outside of school and work, Molly enjoys singing, watching terrible movies, and going on adventures with good friends.



Tabitha Harrington: I enjoy reading and writing. I learned how to read when I was in first grade due to lack of schooling because of personal reasons. I used to read the dictionary as a child because I had only one friend while growing up. When I am not at school or at work, you'll usually find me binge watching Netflix with an extra-large pizza or with my Chinese Water Dragons. If I could describe myself as an animal, it would be a hermit crab. I enjoy going out with my friends, but I usually stay at home a lot because I like keeping to myself.



Daisy Martinez is an alumni of the University of California, Merced where she received her bachelor's in political science and two minors in philosophy and sociology. Her love of learning has led her to continue her education. Currently she is in her third semester at Fresno City College majoring in Paralegalism. Daisy enjoys spending her time being a "planner nerd" and decorating her various planners with washi tape and stickers. Spending time with her family and friends is what makes her happy. Daisy can be found working out, working on her planner, learning Chinese, or playing around with make-up. Daisy hopes to attend law school after gaining experience in the legal field when she graduates in May.



## Tutor and Staff Bios Cont.



Hello! My name is Hector Tapia, and I am a Fresno City College student who is majoring in criminology. I want to work in the special victims unit and help kids who have been assaulted by pedophiles and what not. Fighting crime isn't my only interest, I am also a huge Cher fan. Anything Cher makes me smile, so if you don't know who she is I can't tutor you, just kidding! I hope to see you in the WRC soon! Remember the temperature is going down, but your GPA shouldn't! :)"



My name is Rubi Uriarte. I have been attending Fresno City College for about three and a half years now. I am currently working as a front desk person in the Writing and Reading Center. I have tutored in the past as well. Working in the Writing and Reading Center has been a good experience because I have met a lot of great people, and I was able to learn more about what tutoring is all about. It is a great feeling seeing students greatly improving their writing skills. My dream is to finish school soon, hopefully get my Bachelor's Degree in Nursing and start working. Another dream of mine is to travel around the world. I would like to go to Paris, Cancun, Hawaii, and other pretty places. Some things I enjoy doing are: baking, shopping and watching movies with friends and family.

## Welcome New Tutors and Staff

By: Melody Kruse

Ari Aguilera (WRC Tutor)



Jemimah Barba (WRC Tutor)





## Welcome New Tutors Cont.

Marissa Jones (Front Desk)



Jessica Loyd (WRC Tutor)



### Staff

#### Writing and Reading Center Coordinator

Tabitha Villalba

#### PASS Coordinator

Jennifer Dorian

#### Adjunct Faculty

Amanda Kendorza

Melody Kruse

Brice Nakamura

Nicolas Quintana

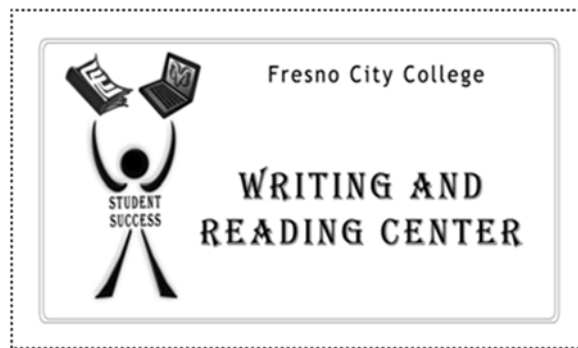
Shushanek Silvas

#### Editor in Chief

Melody Kruse

#### Layout

Melody Kruse and Rebekah Olson



## **The Writing & Reading Center**

### **WHERE READING AND WRITING ARE THE FOCUS.**

The Writing & Reading Center (WRC) assists Fresno City College students of all abilities and levels with reading and writing assignments across the curriculum, as well as time management and college study skills; we strive to help students attain success in their classes by helping them to improve their writing and reading skills. The WRC is located in the Tutorial Center (LI-134) mezzanine, towards the back.





