



The Rough Draft

PERSPECTIVES PIECE

By Molly Callaway

We're all here for a better life, and while a college degree is a surefire way to make that better situation a possibility, a diploma is only going to get you so far. For example, I am an art major, specifically interested in pursuing a career in film and animation. For an artist, going to college is the bare minimum – something I have to keep reminding myself of daily. While college serves as a useful method of introducing concepts to artists and providing them with networking opportunities, it is also an artist's responsibility to hone their craft, develop a style, and make him or herself as desirable as a future employee, or freelancer, as possible. I would argue that these same requirements apply to every student. The reality is that going to school is not automatically going to get you a job.

So, how do you ensure your future success? The answer is to decide how school is useful to you. Maybe that video-editing course won't count towards your 60 units (if you're going for an A.A.), but would the knowledge gained be interesting to you and useful in your desired field? It is also vitally important to be invested in your education. If a class seems like an easy A, why even take it? Be picky. The tougher professors who challenge their students are the ones you'll appreciate in the long run. Ask yourself during that first week of the new semester, "Am I going to learn anything of value from this course? What does this professor have to offer me?" Your focus should not be on just completing classes but gaining as much from the experience as possible.

It is also important to utilize the resources available to you. Don't be afraid to visit your professors during their office hours or ask the hundreds of people employed around campus for help. They're willing and excited to give you that help and provide you with the resources and information you need to be successful. As we are all aware, it is a difficult world out there, so let's do our best to gain knowledge, improve ourselves, and reach our goals.

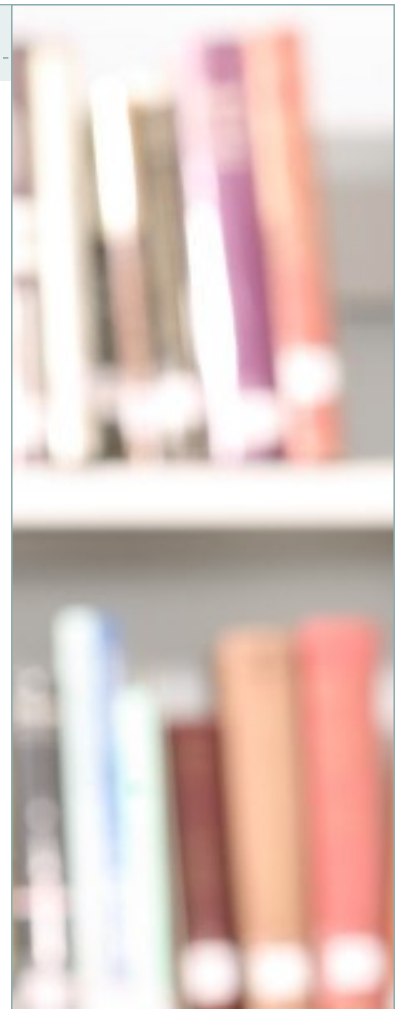
WORDS OF WISDOM

By Jonah Schnieder

"We're so busy watching out for what's just ahead of us that we don't take time to enjoy where we are."

-Bill Watterson

In the modern age, it has become more difficult to live in the present. We are either thinking about things that happened in the past, or are busy planning for the future. Neither of these things are necessarily bad; however, it can be if that is all we do. This quote from the comic strip *Calvin and Hobbes* inspires me to just focus on what is happening at this very moment. If you only dwell on the past and future, you may miss some great opportunities that are right in front of you. Do something spontaneous every so often. Live life! Go out and make some experiences that will stay with you forever!



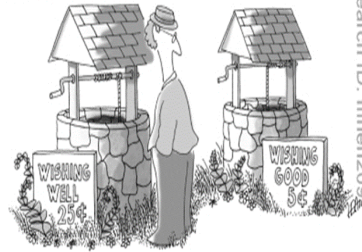
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COMICS OF THE MONTH (SELECTED BY VEREAK THAN)

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“Wishing Well” *Grammaniac*. 15 January 2012, grammaniac.wordpress.com/2012/01/15/ten-comics-every-grammar-snob-will-appreciate/, 15 September 2016.



“I have two mommies.” *Grammaniac*. 15 January 2012. grammaniac.wordpress.com/2012/01/15/ten-comics-every-grammar-snob-will-appreciate/. 15 September 2016.

GRAMMAR BYTES

That has made all the difference

By Melody Kruse

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I,
 I took the one less traveled by,
 And that has made all the difference.

--Robert Frost

If you are anything like me, it is easy to get caught up in the way words sound, but forget that they have different meanings. Just like Robert Frost penned, it makes all the difference which “road” or word we choose. Words are powerful swords and we have to be careful how we wield them.

Example: Insight vs. Incite

Insight means to understand and helps you grasp where the speaker is coming from, e.g. the author had a powerful insight about why his character’s blindness also masked his true character.

Incite, on the other hand, means to stimulate action, e.g. the people of the village attempted to incite a riot against the evil queen in order to protect their hero, Snow White.

Though these two words sound similar, their meanings are very different. It is important to remember that when using them in everyday language.

“Incite and insight-the difference.” *Grammar-Monster.com*. www.grammar-monster.com/easily_confused/incite_insight.htm. 3 May 2016.

Frost, Robert. “The Road Not Taken.” *Poetry Foundation*. 2016. <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/resources/learning/core-poems/detail/44272>. 9 September 2016.

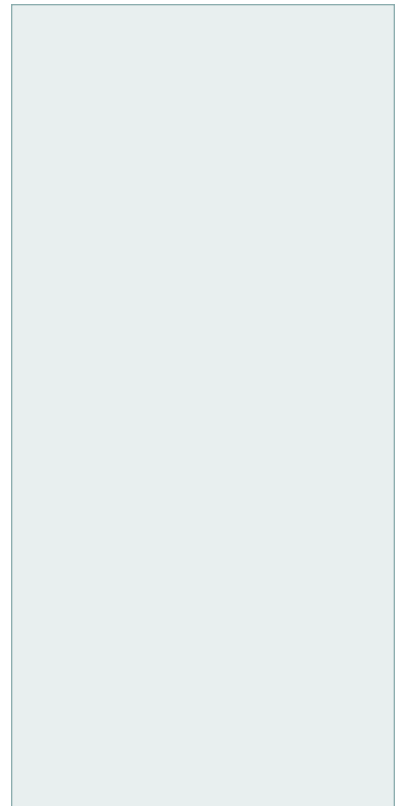
BOOK CORNER

By Isaiah Rubio



Johnny Got His Gun by Dalton Trumbo

If you woke up and you couldn't see, speak, hear, or move, how would life be like for you? *Johnny Got His Gun*, by Dalton Trumbo, is a book written in 1939 and answers such a question. Joe Bonham wakes up in a hospital during WWI and doesn't know what has happened to him. He lives in darkness and can't move or communicate. The whole story is told through Joe's thoughts and his interactions with the world around him and it is here the reader learns about his life, thoughts, dreams, and motivations. Joe has lost his limbs and face due to an explosion and at first, wants to kill himself by suffocation. However, he learns that he is kept breathing through a tube and ultimately accepts this and desires different aspirations once he finds a way to communicate with the reality outside of his mind. If you're looking for a book that looks at the consequences of war, look no further. *Johnny Got His Gun* was controversial at the time of its release and in some ways it still is. The writing is a bit difficult to go into at first, but after a few pages, it becomes easier to read and you really get a sense of Joe as a person. *Johnny Got His Gun* remains a must read anti-war novel that still brings to light and holds no punches about the consequences of war and gets one to consider what really happens to soldiers when they are wounded, physically and/or mentally. (Continued on page 4).



CITATION SPOTLIGHT

By Rebekah Olson and Melody K ruse

Journal Article from an Online Database in MLA:

Author's last name, First name. "Article Title." *Journal Title*, Volume number, issue number, Date of Publication, page numbers. *Research Database*, Website address.

Example:

Wiener, Jon. "Aiming Higher: Make College Tuition Free." *Nation*, volume 300, no 14, 4 April 2015, pp. 224-226. *Academic Search Premier*, <http://eds.a.ebscohost.com/ehost/detail/detail?vid=3&sid=aob055cd-e838-4574-be9f-fb77fcb6c117%40sessionmgr4008&hid=4108&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWlhvc3QtG12ZQ%3d%3d#AN=101720701&db=aph>

Journal Article from an Online Database in APA:

Author's last name, First Initial. (Year of Publication). Article Title. *Journal Title*, Volume number (issue number), Page numbers. Retrieved from web site address

Example:

Wiener, J. (2015). Aiming Higher: Make College Tuition Free. *Nation*, 300 (14), 224-226. Retrieved from <http://eds.a.ebscohost.com/ehost/detail/detail?vid=3&sid=aob055cd-e838-4574-be9f-fb77fcb6c117%40sessionmgr4008&hid=4108&bdata=JnNpdGU9ZWlhvc3QtG12ZQ%3d%3d#AN=101720701&db=aph>





WORDS OF KNOWLEDGE

By Caroline Mata

1. Amanuensis-noun-[uh-man-yoo-en-sis]: a person employed to write what another dictates or to copy what has been written by another; secretary

Ex. Laura is now working at her father's business as his amanuensis since he has recently gone blind.

2. Puckish-adjective-[puhk-ish]: mischievous; impish

Ex. As children, my younger sister took puckish delight in reading my journal.

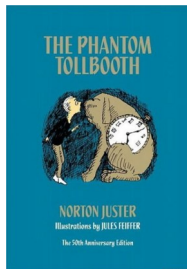
3. Fuliginous-adjective-[fyoo-lij-uh-

nuh s]: sooty; smoky; of the color of soot, as dark gray, dull brown, black, etc.

Ex. The fuliginous air clouded over the steam boat.



BOOK CORNER CONTINUED



The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster

After a while, the routine of life takes a hold and you find yourself in a cage. Most likely, you put yourself in that cage and you can get out anytime you want. For Milo, being bored and uninterested in learning causes him to find a mysterious box with directions for assembling a tollbooth. After he builds it and winds up his miniature car, he finds himself in a world that he has never seen before. *The Phantom Tollbooth*, by Norton Juster, is a whimsical children's chapter book that doesn't take itself too seriously, but also gives readers an adventure through wit. It is in this land where Milo learns about the doldrums, a place where the creatures there do nothing and it is against the law to think. It is here where he meets Tock, the literal watch dog who aides him on his adventure. The land itself is headed by lands and kingdoms lead by math, language, sight, and sound. The ultimate journey for Milo and his friends is to save the princesses Rhyme and Reason from captivity to establish peace between the quarreling brothers who are kings of Digitopolis and Dictionopolis for the sake of the country. *The Phantom Tollbooth* is in the realm of *Alice in Wonderland* and it's humor is just so. In the end, Milo learns valuable lessons about life and the world around him. Norton Juster does a great job creating a world in which the humor comes from the interactions of Milo and the new world around him. *The Phantom Tollbooth* is an easy read and can be read in an afternoon, but it'll be a fun afternoon that you won't regret.

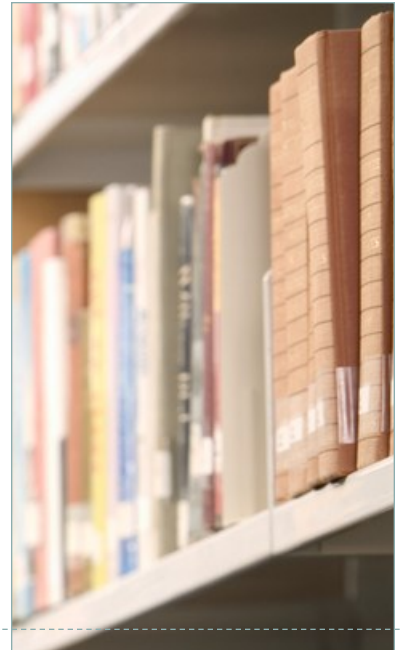


ILLUSTRATION BY ANTHONY RUGSGO

TUTEE OF THE MONTH

By Hector Tapia

Every month we observe which student puts in plenty of effort within the WRC. Now, all the students that come in show an extreme amount of dedication to their studies; however, one student in particular has stood out the most this month, and it is Esmerelda Hurtado. Ms. Hurtado always comes in with regards to her English 1A class. She has not shown any 'shame' with asking questions for any area of her assignment that she doesn't understand fully. This hunger for knowledge is the key to being a successful student, hence why myself, Hector Tapia, and the WRC as a whole, want to congratulate Ms. Hurtado on being our Tutee of the Month!!



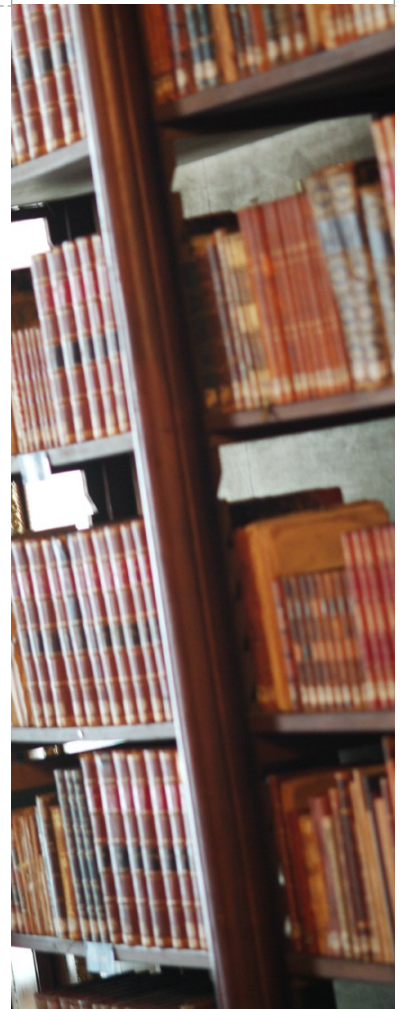
*“The hunger for knowledge is the key to being a successful student.”—
Hector Tapia*

MEET THE TUTORS/STAFF



City College. I hope I will have a better life and happier life here.

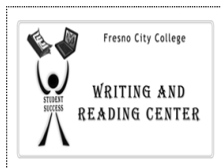
My name is Thu Nguyen. I am from Vietnam, a small but beautiful country in South East Asia. In Vietnamese, my first name means "fall," my father's and my favorite season. I went to the United States at the end of 2014 to study abroad. I am studying nursing at Fresno City College. My dream job is a pediatric nurse, as I really love children and want to take care of them. I decided to apply for a job in the Writing and Reading Center because I want to keep myself busy as well as gain more experience. I also hope to help other students with their essays as I know many of them usually struggle with their academic writing. I am not bad at writing, but I am not good at speaking, either. I still speak English with an accent, and sometimes I misunderstand people when they talk too fast. I hope I can improve my English skills by communicating more with people here. So far, I like the United States as well as Fresno



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MEET THE TUTORS CONTINUED



Bruno Nagal: My name is Bruno. I am a student completing science and mathematics courses in order to one day study medicine. My interests include philosophy, psychiatry, psychology, tennis, and hip hop. I was born in Paraguay, spent my childhood in Bolivia, and grew into a teen here in Fresno. I moved to the US in 2002, just two days before turning eleven. I pressured my family into buying me a chalupa to celebrate. I was convinced Taco Bell would rock my world. Thankfully, this idea did not last long. Now you can find me in the center getting help for math, or helping others troubleshoot essays and homework.



David Hardison: I'm from Fresno, and here at Fresno City College is where I got my start. I say "start" because I was homeschooled all the way through high school, so the format was new and different (in a scary but good way). English was a hugely intimidating subject, but a few classes later, I began to appreciate it more and more. With some encouragement from my wonderful instructor, I started tutoring. I wanted to help other students like me, who took one look at English and said "nope" or started blindly throwing words at a page. That was back in 2010. Since then I've graduated from FCC and CSU Fresno, and now I'm working on my graduate degree in, guess what, Rhetoric and Writing! Yep, I've been hooked for a while now. So, currently I'm teaching my first class at Fresno State (which is so much fun!) and working with some awesome students and tutors here at the Writing & Reading Center. FCC is a great community, and my plan is to become a teacher here. That way I can keep actively learning about teaching and English forever (yes, seriously). Because just in case you were wondering, no, you are never truly done with English.

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