

# THE ROUGH DRAFT

FRESNO CITY COLLEGE NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2016 VOLUME 6, ISSUE 6

## PERSPECTIVES PIECE

By Daisy Martinez

Hello, my name is Daisy Martinez and I am a student at Fresno City College. I am a tutor at the Writing and Reading Center. Being a tutor has been a very humbling and rewarding experience. When I stumbled upon the Writing and Reading Center page online, I instantly felt a connection with the overall message about helping other students succeed. I felt I was a good fit to be an English tutor. I felt pretty confident in being able to teach others to write better, or so I thought.

I was a bit nervous my first day of tutoring. I wasn't quite sure what to expect. After observing a few sessions with other tutors, I felt more comfortable. I have been a tutor for over two years and I can honestly say that this job was awesome. It's such a great feeling when you can help someone put their thoughts in such an

articulate way and write on paper what they really meant. In the years that I have been here, I have helped a number of regular tutees. I have seen them work diligently, despite their struggles with the English language. It feels good when a student shows gratitude and thanks you for helping them out.

Those whose first language was not English, made me become a better tutor. What is common sense to me, grammatically speaking, may not make sense to another person. For example, it was hard for me to explain the reasoning

behind why something as simple as a change from the word "a" to "the" in a sentence. Little things like this, made me question my ability to help students in English. I felt a bit foolish. I had to re-learn the grammatical rules so that I could explain it to the students in a way that they could also understand. One of the challenges of being a tutor is having to be able to explain a concept in several ways. In other words, the way I explain it to one student, may not work for another student, so I have to make sure that each student understands what I am trying to say.

Overall, I enjoyed tutoring

because it kept my mind sharp. While I am teaching students about MLA/APA format, I'm also learning something new when reading their essays. I have such a passion for learning, so it's great that I worked for a

place where I was able to learn a little bit of history, through reading the infamous Siroky papers, to learning about theories from psychology, and the many useful software programs for computers from the AT-10 class.

This was my last semester tutoring and it was great meeting the new faces of the Writing and Reading Center. I would like to thank my wonderful co-workers and supervisors for giving me the chance to work at the WRC. It was truly a pleasure working with all of you. I wish you all good luck in your futures.

"IT'S SUCH A GREAT FEELING WHEN YOU CAN HELP SOMEONE PUT THEIR THOUGHTS IN SUCH AN ARTICULATE WAY AND WRITE ON PAPER WHAT THEY REALLY MEANT."

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Perspectives piece p. 1
- Words of Wisdom p. 2
- Words of Knowledge p. 2
- Grammar Bytes pp. 3-4
- Book Corner pp. 4-5
- Meet the Staff pp. 5-6
- Writing and Reading Center Faculty p. 7

## WORDS OF WISDOM

By Catalina Chicas

“Patience is bitter, but it’s fruit is sweet” - Jean Jacques Rousseau

Rousseau was an important writer during the pre-French Revolution time period. His ideas influenced people during the enlightenment and are still influencing people today. The reason I believe this quote is appropriate this month is because many of our students are finishing their first semester of college and realizing just how much work can go into it. Patience, though, is going to produce great things for you. It may be hard to have to wait so long to finish a degree, but it will be so worth it in the end. I encourage you as students, tutors, and staff, to persevere in patience in whatever may be happening in your life. It may be in your schooling, career, or family, but don’t lose hope, the fruit will be sweet.

## WORDS OF KNOWLEDGE

By Caroline Mata

Indolent: [in-dl-uh nt] adjective

1. Having or showing a disposition to avoid exertion; slothful:

Example: The teenager was so indolent, he decided to eat with his hands instead of washing a fork.

2. Pathology. causing little or no pain; inactive or relatively benign:

Example: The patient had an indolent ulcer that was not painful and was slow to heal.

guile [gahyl] noun

1. Insidious cunning in attaining a goal; crafty or artful deception; duplicity.





## GRAMMAR BYTES

By Christina Olauge

### **Apostrophe Rules:**

- 1) Apostrophes are used to show ownership:

“The car that belongs to Alex is red.”

Means the same as

“Alex’s car is red.”

- 2) Apostrophes are used to connect two words in a contraction:

He cannot have any ice cream.

Means the same as

He can’t have any ice cream.

- 3) If the noun is *singular*, the apostrophe comes before the “s.”

If the noun is *plural*, the apostrophe comes after the “s”.

The teacher’s apple is delicious.

The teachers’ apples are delicious.

### **Common Error:**

Using an apostrophe with *possessive pronouns*:

Incorrect: The cake was our's.

Correct: The cake was ours.

## BOOK CORNER



*Survivor* by Chuck (pronounce it however you like) Palahniuk  
Orion Fitzhenry

I loved Chuck's writing before I ever read it. His book, *Fight Club*, entered my life, in movie form, in my early adolescence and had a profound effect on me afterwards (as it did for many angry, young men). It's clear, concise and contains no unnecessary words. Whenever I finish one of his books, I return to the real world itching to get back to Chuck's beautiful paradox's and twisted descriptions of twisted feelings. He has written many books, so I never go wanting for long.

*Survivor* is told from the perspective of Tender Branson, a man in his thirties who is somewhat removed from the world in which he lives. As the second son in his family, Tender left his home to be the help of the wealthiest of people as soon as he turned eighteen. Originally, he did this at the behest of the Creedish cult which raised him so that he could send his earnings back, but now his world has changed as the cult has disappeared from the world as cults often do. That's pretty much the plot of the book, although it takes a sharp right turn around the halfway mark.

This book is dark, but it can be fun if you're willing to go through the pain that the characters go through. If you don't mind feeling the complete loneliness and disillusionment of another person, there is a fun and (somewhat) uplifting story waiting for you. The content of this book may keep some readers away. It probably earns a solid R rating, in my opinion. Chuck hits hard and you rarely see it coming. This is a great, short book that stayed with me long after I put it down.



A Way Through *The Way of Kings* by Brandon Sanderson  
Orion Fitzhenry

In the intermittent minutes between classes and tutoring sessions, I've been living in Roshar. A world of stone and storms where humanity fights at the edge of the world over shattered ground for its survival. Clocking at 1,200+ pages, *The Way of Kings* is the first book in The Stormlight Archive, a projected ten book series from fantasy author Brandon Sanderson. There are times in the book where the story drags the pacing lags nearly to a halt, but all the while groundwork is being played down for the epic story that lies ahead. It's a long haul of a rowan that's well worth the effort in the end.

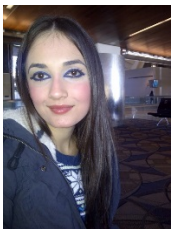
The story follows three main characters; Kaladin, a surgeon turned soldier turned slave, Dalinar Kholin, the king's uncle, and Shallan Davar, a thief pretending to be a scholar to save her family's name. The book is rich with cohesive world building and awe-inspiring magic systems which make the story rewarding enough to stick through the. It's not always easy to get through the slow parts at times, but it's well worth the effort. By the end of the story enough is answered and enough is left up to question that the series holds promise.

*The Way of Kings* is a great novel for anyone wanting to lose themselves in a densely packed world with no end in sight. The book contains some grisly violence at times but is a good book for general audiences overall.

## MEET THE STAFF

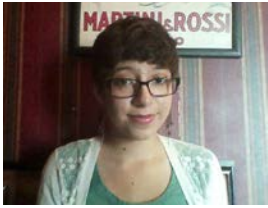


**Maria Vargas:** Hi, my name is Maria Vargas. I am currently attending Fresno City College and will be getting my associates degree in Business Administration after this semester! I will then be transferring to CSU Fresno to pursue a bachelor's degree in Business. Some of my hobbies include listening to music, hiking, road trips, and going to the gym. I enjoy going to basketball games, the last game I've attended was the Golden State Warriors vs Sacramento Kings, go Warriors! This is my first semester here at the Writing and Reading Center (WRC) & I love it so far. I enjoy helping others reach their semester academic goals.



**Varty Hamamijan:** Since I was a little child, I have been dreaming of becoming a pharmacist in the future, no matter how long it will take. After I moved to United States of America, I kept working hard to become who I am today and I will continue to move forward to have a better future. My dream has not changed because I really love to help people in my life and not only family, friends, or close relatives. I would love to help anyone and everyone if I have the ability and the experiences. Also, I chose to become a pharmacist to have a reliable future to support my parents and my future family. I feel happy and energized every time I help people because I want to see everyone happy and satisfied in their lives not matter how much I am struggling or how difficult my life is. I know that becoming a pharmacist is not easy, but I will keep working hard to reach my goal no matter what. Being educated is the top priority of my life because becoming an independent person is an amazing feeling.

## MEET THE STAFF CONTINUED



Christina Olague: Hi, my name is Christina Olague. This is my third year at Fresno City and I plan to transfer next fall as an ecology major. This is my first semester working at the WRC and I enjoy helping students organize their ideas and essays. I also enjoy spoken word poetry and hiking.

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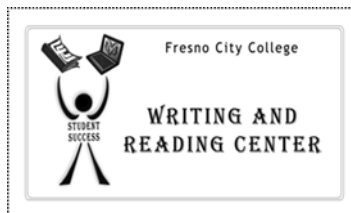
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