

The Rough Draft

Fresno City College

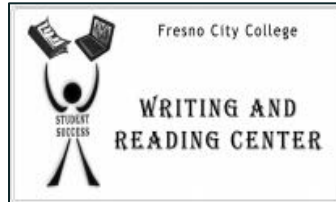
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Perspective Piece

By Thu Nyguen

I came to the United States at the end of 2014. I had few friends and no relatives here. It was a really hard time for me. School-work, the language barrier, and finances were all tough. With the help of some kind friends, good professors, and nice people, I overcame many difficulties in the first year. However, I was still in need of money to pay for tuition fees and living expenses. So I decided to get a job on campus. I applied to be a tutor in the Writing and Reading Center (WRC) of Fresno City College. The application process was long and exhausting, but I did not want to give up. Finally, I got accepted. Until today, I



must say that working in the WRC was one of the best decisions of my life.

The WRC is my first professional workplace. As I am a shy and unconfident person, I somehow felt scared and nervous at first. However, all the supervisors are nice and helpful. They are responsible but not as strict as I imagined. They are responsive, passionate, and considerate. They help me be familiar with the work that I am supposed to do, answer many questions of mine, and try to make sure we have a safe and comfortable working environment. They also let

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me know my strengths and weaknesses so that I can improve myself, and I really appreciate that.

If my supervisors make me feel professionalism, my fellow tutors, on the other hand, make me feel a sense of community. As nobody is

perfect, we sometimes may not know everything the tutees need. Luckily, we are always willing to help each other out, so all of our problems are usually solved quickly. I know one of my disadvantages is my accent, which causes difficulty for others to understand what I say. But no one in the WRC refuses to talk to me. In fact, they are all happy to share their life stories, ask about me, and help me to improve my pronunciation. I myself

am surprised that I have been more open and getting along well with my fellow tutors since I worked here.

I cannot express how grateful I am to all people in the WRC, who cheer up my dull life in the United States, who help me a lot to overcome my shyness and difficulty, who make me laugh with their simple jokes or life stories, and who teach me a lot of new things and experience I may not have somewhere else. The WRC is

my workplace, but I never feel much pressure working there because of this tight-knit community where all members are willing to help and share the burden. Now that I am going to leave Fresno soon, I am sure I will miss those friends so much. People may think that I am quiet or distant; I do not talk a lot; I just sit and observe, but from the bottom of my heart, I always feel loved, happy, and thankful.

Grammar Bytes

By Taylor Montero

Homonyms are words that sound the same, but have different meanings. For example:

Bye:

Bye: used to express good wishes when parting or at the end of a conversation.

Ex. Joey and Sam said bye to Logan as they were leaving.

By:

- identifying the agent performing an action.
- indicating the means of achieving something.
- So as to go past.

Ex. JC and Justin were standing by the Ferris wheel at the carnival.

Buy:

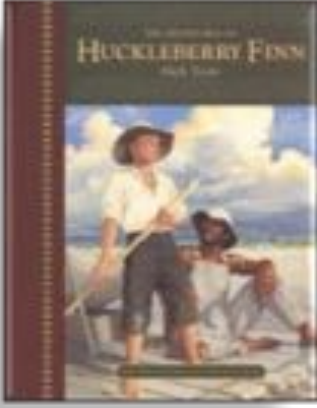
- Obtain in exchange for payment.

Ex. Lance is planning to buy the iPhone 7 when he goes to best buy

The Book Corner

By Kris Havlik

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn



The Adventures of Huckleberry

Finn, written by American author Mark Twain, is the story of a young boy growing up in the South in the years prior to the Civil War. Huckleberry, or Huck as he goes by in the story, sets off on an adventure with his counterpart Jim, a runaway slave, where they

encounter a variety of ridiculous, yet serious, situations. Throughout these encounters, as well as the entirety of the story, Huck has been given the task of figuring out the meaning of right and wrong, which was taught to him by an immoral and unjust southern society. Huck and Jim encounter a great deal of strangers on their journey towards freedom, all who possess different qualities and who create trouble for our two protagonists in this great adventure. "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," takes the reader on an adventure, captures the ideals and morals of the South, and tells the tale of an opportunistic young boy and a runaway slave on their path to freedom in hopes of a new life.

Huck has had a humble upbringing; he does not usually comply with the standards and morals as the rest of society. Huck is used to living outside of the confines of society, he likes to go on adventures with his best friend, Tom Sawyer, and sleep out in the woods rather than inside on a mattress. On one particular evening, after returning home from an adventure with Tom Sawyer, Huck climbed through his window to find his father, Pap, sitting on his bed. His father tells him that he should stop going to school and quit reading and writing, because Pap believes that a boy should not be more educated

Words of Knowledge

By Caroline Mata

- ramify (RAM-uh-fye) verb

Definition

1: to split up into branches or constituent parts

2: to send forth branches or extensions

3: to cause to branch

Ramify. Merriam-Webster.

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/ramify>

- illicit (il·lic it) adjective

Definition

1: not permitted; unlawful

Illicit. Merriam-Webster.

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/illicit>

- hart ('härt) noun

Definition

chiefly British

1: the male of the red deer especially when over five years old; stag

Hart. Merriam-Webster.

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/hart>

than his own father. A few nights later Pap captures Huck and takes him to a cabin across the Mississippi River. In this part of the story, Huck is being held captive and begins to learn what it means to be powerless.

Huck eventually escapes and finds his way to Jackson Island, which is a little further downstream than St. Petersburg. He enjoys this safe haven for a few days by sleeping under the stars, hunting and fishing for his food, and exploring the three-mile long island. Huck then stumbles into a campfire that has only recently been put out, and then finds Jim, the runaway slave.

The raft that Huck and Jim travel on for a majority of the story is a symbol of their bond that they have formed. No matter which way they look at it, they are both on the run and neither of them is looked upon with grace by society. Not only is Jim a runaway slave, but Huck is now helping Jim escape to freedom. The longer that Huck and Jim travelled together, the more equal they became. They began to do everything together. They would hide in the day-time and they would travel by night. However, they were not quite done with their journey towards freedom quite yet. Huck begins to realize that although he cares about Jim, according to society, by helping set Jim free, he is going against the beliefs that he was taught. Huck learns that there are times in life when following one's conscience is more valuable than following the ideal behavior that society has set forth. Huck and Jim encountered numerous strangers and situations, in which they had to finagle their way out of. Throughout the entirety of the story, Huck was helping Jim gain his freedom and protecting him from any danger that they may encounter.

After all of the lessons that Huck learned along the way and after all of the hardships that he and Jim endured, they learned that Jim was free after all and would not have to suffer the despair of being a slave any longer. Even though Huck had grown into a more mature human being throughout the adventure, he returned to his old ways when given the opportunity. The entire adventure that Huck and Jim endured gave them the opportunity to see the world for what it really was. Huck learned that the world is a cruel place, and there are times when a person must stay true to who they are and follow their conscience. He learned that it is more important to be happy with your decisions than to follow the rules of an unjust society. "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," is a story of how Huckleberry Finn, the young boy without hope, and Jim, the runaway slave, went on a journey to find a better life and escape the harsh realities of the South. Huck and Jim not only found adventure and freedom, but in the end, they also found themselves.

Words of Wisdom !

By Renee Mora "



This nugget of wisdom boldly displayed on my desk serves as a daily reminder when I start my day. The first time I read this quote, I was moved yet convicted with its truth. Truth in its entirety, how often have we found ourselves in a situation where we are so easily to establish blame or fault at another. Have you ever found yourself in any of the following situations?

"I didn't get the job promotion, because the supervisors have their favorites."

"I never have any extra finances for fun, because I have a job that doesn't pay enough."

"I don't have time for anything, I work all day and have school all night, and no means of transportation."

"I just don't have the time. I'm late because there is no parking."

"Some instructors and academic counselors don't care. I just don't understand what I am supposed to do."

If we are completely transparent and honest with ourselves, I am confident in that we can relate to any of the above statements. It's always some sort of external factor that holds us back from success. However, is it really some external factor or someone else's fault from accomplishing our goals? It's so easy to fall into this trap of shifting blame or responsibility onto others, without owning our part in succeeding and accomplishing our goals. Trust me I have been there myself. For myself I've weathered cancer and amputation when my son was a child, divorce, single parenting, chronic or medical illness, caregiving terminally ill parents, and financial setbacks due to life's circumstances, life isn't always rainbows and sunshine. However, what I have learned from these situations is I am in charge of my life, destiny, goals, and time, regardless of what comes my way.

Words of Wisdom Cont'd

You and I have the same 24 hours in a day. How we choose to use those hours is a personal choice. Whether we need to seek out additional help or tutoring, set that alarm clock earlier, or brush up on our time management skills, we have to be intentional with our daily decisions to achieve our goals. Being open to evolve and lifelong learning can become our greatest asset towards living out our dreams.

Can we benefit from seeking additional help from instructors or academic counselor during office hours, if we are struggling with a concept or need more advice about steps toward graduation? Does it benefit our lives to set short and long term goals through reflection and action steps? Is there a mentor or someone we can learn or grow from in an area of our lives? What can I do daily to help build towards achieving my goals? Would it benefit me to take time daily for health such as yoga, working out, or do an activity to help me alleviate stress daily in my life? Life can get challenging at any given time. However, with positive support, encouraging guidance, and commitment to achieving our goals, we can continue to evolve and create our best selves one day at a time. It's a process. It does not happen overnight. It takes practice like anything. But together we can rise to achieve our dreams one action at a time.

Comic of the Month

By Jonah Schneider



Watterson, Bill. *Calvin and Hobbes*.

Comic of the Month Cont'd



Allenby, Tim. "The Key to Writing Essays." *This Is Normal*. 22 March 2010.



Snider, Grant. "Styles of Writing." *Incidental Comics*. 24 March 2014.

Citation Spotlight

By Roubina Hamamijan

MLA style is an accepted way to document source material for many types of humanities documents. It is simpler than some other style guides, such as the APA Style Guide or the Chicago Manual of Style, and has two basic requirements:

1. Brief parenthetical citations in the text.
2. An alphabetical list of works cited that corresponds to the in-text citations and appears at the end of the research paper.

In simple terms, you put a reference to your source material in parentheses in the text and you list all the sources to which you have referred in alphabetical order at the end of the paper.

Regarding in-text citations, the rules for MLA 8 are the same as in previous versions. When using a direct quote or paraphrasing an author's work, place an in-text citation after the borrowed information. Generally, the in-text citation is found immediately following the direct quote or paraphrase, but it is acceptable to insert it in a place, soon after, that allows for a natural pause while reading.

In-text citations are generally made up of two items: the author's last name and the page number. If there isn't an author, use the first item in the full citation entry. When starting to build your Works Cited page, start by consulting your list of core elements. Remember, your core elements are:

1. Author
2. Title of source
3. Title of container
4. Other contributors
5. Version
6. Number
7. Publisher
8. Publication date
9. Location

Meet the Tutors



Kristopher Havlik:

Hello, my name is Kris Havlik and I am a tutor in the Writing and Reading Center. I have been lucky enough to work at Fresno City College since the fall semester of 2015. Originally, I worked as a PASS leader with the PASS Program, but eventually I found a home in the WRC. I have been a tutor in the WRC since the spring semester of 2016 and have loved every second. I feel truly blessed to be able to help students learn and further their education every day. After receiving my degree from Clovis Community College, I transferred to a CSU. I am currently a Psychology major in my Junior year at University of California, Fresno. I plan to receive my bachelor's degree, and then move on to the graduate program. I look forward to my future, as it looks rather promising, but what I look forward to most is the opportunity to help others along the way.

Jenna Walther:



I've been working at the WRC for a year now, and with each day and each student I work with, I get more and more excited and inspired by them. I'm slightly embarrassed to admit this, but I've been in college (off and on) since I was 17; to paint the full picture, I am 26 now. Life has put many obstacles and off-road routes on my path to graduating, but I couldn't and wouldn't give up. Writing, reading and education is my life and my passion. During this time, I acquired my AA degree in English from FCC, and I now have one semester left at Fresno State. I will be graduating with a BA in English Education and a minor in creative writing. I want to be a High School English teacher and I'd specifically like to work at a continuation school or work with at-risk teens. For now though, I love tutoring at the WRC and am looking forward to this new semester.



Christina Olague:

Hi, my name is Christina Olague. This upcoming fall will be last semester at Fresno City, as I will be transferring to UC Santa Cruz to major in Ecology. In my free time, I enjoy spoken word poetry and playing the ukulele. I enjoy working at the WRC and helping students conquer their assignments and become better writers.

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