



## WRITING AND READING CENTER

# ROUGH DRAFT

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### PERSPECTIVE PIECE

BY ARIANA MARTINEZ

#### CHOOSE TO REVEL IN KNOWLEDGE

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Why did I come to college? Some days I ask myself this question far more frequently than other days. I thought I came to college with the purpose of bettering myself and scaling the collective rungs of life. Turns out, my journey throughout college has come to mean a bit more.

When I first arrived at Fresno City College I was alerted to the fact that I would be required to complete more than a few general education courses. Many a student I've interacted with over the years has lamented over this requirement. Students want to dive quickly into their respective fields and take the courses that allow them to do so.



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## PERSPECTIVE PIECE (CONT.)

But for myself, I didn't know for years what my major would be and the path that eventually led me to English was quite obscure. But what I do know is that the classes I took along the way have helped shape me into the intellectual being I am today. Who would I be had I not pondered Picasso's *Guernica*? If I hadn't stayed up until two in the morning frustratingly enraptured with various algorithms? And without taking an introductory literature course, I never would have found my academic passion.

This institute has come to offer me so much more than they mention in those nifty campus catalogues. I've come to realize that college isn't just about learning trivial facts. For me it's about approaching each course and professor with an open mind and absorbing as much knowledge as possible. I'm not on this campus to just learn, I'm here to change the way I think. Every course I take is a micro-adjustment to my inner thought processes and I relish that off-kilter feeling. But most importantly I want to be inspired **to think**. And college definitely does that for me. So if you're considering taking that Art History course, do it. If you've always wondered about the stars in the sky, pick up an Astronomy course (Yes, it actually exists). And who knows? You might just learn something interesting.



**STYGIAN:** *adjective, often capitalized sty-gian* \ 'sti-j(ē-)ən \ <sup>1</sup> of or relating to the river Styx. <sup>2</sup> extremely dark, gloomy, or forbidding: the stygian blackness of the cave

**BAMBOOZLE:** *verb bam-boo-zle* \ bam-'bü-zəl \ <sup>1</sup> to deceive by underhanded methods : dupe, hoodwink: a quarterback bamboozled by an unexpected defense

**PARAGON:** *noun par-a-gon* \ 'per-ə-,gän, -gən, 'pa-rə- \ <sup>1</sup> a model of excellence or perfection; was a paragon of goodness a paragon of a wife



One of the most common mistakes while citing MLA is not indenting the second line in the works cited part of your essay. It is a simple trick that every college student must know.

Error example:

Hewitt, Steven. "The Return of Comrade Ricardo Flores Magón - by Lomnitz, Claudio." *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, vol. 34, no. 4, Oct. 2015, pp. 538-539. EBSCOhost, doi:10.1111/blar.12375.

Correct example:

Hewitt, Steven. "The Return of Comrade Ricardo Flores Magón - by Lomnitz, Claudio." *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, vol. 34, no. 4, Oct. 2015, pp. 538-539. EBSCOhost, doi:10.1111/blar.12375.

Simply highlight the incorrect citation, right click, go to paragraph, go to 'Special' under indentation, and finally select hanging.

Example citation was taken from EbscoHost on the FCC Research Database



## Words of Wisdom by Caroline Mata

“A Clock is not time; it's numbers and springs. Pay it no mind.”

Peter S. Beagle, *The Last Unicorn*

This line is one I have taken from a childhood favorite fantasy novel, *The Last Unicorn*, written by Peter S. Beagle. I chose it because lately I have found myself surrounded by the impatience of time. Too often have many of my friends, coworkers, and myself been sitting around looking through calendars and clocks, complaining and growing more anxious by the sense of time, or more specifically, time wasted.

Someone has a wedding that isn't being scheduled fast enough, someone hasn't graduated in the time they planned they would, someone wants a child before it is too late while another is being antagonized by family for wanting to wait longer, and someone feels old for not having a “proper career” in their mid twenties. And there are many of us for whom several of these instances apply.

While planning is important, the hyper anxiety over time wasted is only unhealthy and more counterproductive to the reason behind planning to begin with: that reason being, to decrease anxiety. Therefore, I have found this one line from a child's story to be the most relevant, and so the most important, one I could choose for this month's Words of Wisdom to remind us to put away the calendars and clocks and as Peter says, “Pay it no mind.” Whether something goes according to schedule or not, schedules are just simply numbers and paper.



Comic of the Month (Selected by Vereak Than)



Coverly, Dave. "Stop correcting my grammar!" JPG, 2013,  
<http://www.cartoonistgroup.com/subject/The-Grammar-Comics-and-Cartoons-by-Speed+Bump.php>



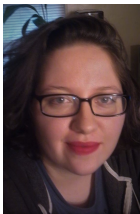


## Meet the Staff !



Dvir Bar

Hi, my name is Dvir Bar. I started my college career here at Fresno City College on Fall of 2016. As of now, I am still undecided on my major, but thinking about the IT field. English is my second language, and I am also fluent in Hebrew. Being a tutor is a very rewarding job, I am glad that I get to help my fellow students in their endeavors. In my spare time I like drawing, hiking and reading.



Ariana Martinez

"Ariana Martinez is an individual who will most likely spend the majority of her adult life in school. She relishes the feeling of opening an unread book and exists for lively debates concerning music, literature, and art. Though often found grimacing (in thought), Ariana thoroughly enjoys conversing with strangers. She is currently quite enraptured with Neil Gaiman's assorted works."



## Paradise Now: The Story of America Utopianism

Review by Richard Kauffman

Paradise Now is a history of utopian movements in the early to mid Nineteenth Century United States. The author, Chris Jennings, discusses five such movements and the environments and factors that favored them: Judeo Christian, The Enlightenment, the Great Awakening religious revival, millennialism, and American exceptionalism. Another contributing factor was the Industrial Revolution.

Of the five movements presented in this fine history, all but one originated in Europe, and two, the Shakers and Robert Owen's New Harmony, in Manchester, England. Manchester in the late 1700s was the center of newly industrialized England. It was a true hellhole. The working and living conditions were horrid, and it is likely that Marx and Engels, who both spent time in Manchester, were inspired by its wretchedness. That New Harmony and the Shakers and the French Icarians and Fourierists should locate in the United States was a result of America's more liberal outlook, and, more importantly, vast expanses of cheap land. Some were truly vast. Robert Owens bought 30,000 acres along the Wabash River in Indiana, which at the time was the frontier. Despite the movement's European roots, by far the majority of the adherents were Americans, and overall were American in character.

The five utopian movements varied considerably, and it's hard to generalize about them, but all had visions of a coming paradise and that some specific ideal social order existed. All were communistic in the sense that they lived together communally and shared everything. Four of the five abolished marriage. The Shakers, so named because they shook violently while praying, were celibate. The inhabitants of New Harmony were allowed conjugal visits, and the Perfectionists, the inhabitants of Onieda, reveled in sex. Whatever their views on this or most any other subject, most based their views on their own interpretations of the Bible. All believed in nonviolence, all gave equal rights to women, and all promoted universal free education. Most maintained libraries and allotted time for cultural events, music, and self improvement.

When appraising these movements from our vantage point, we are apt to be





### Tutee of the Month by Sydnee Appel

Lisette Gonzalez has proven to be an incredible tutee! Not only does she work hard to improve her English skills, but she applies these learned skills in her other classes. You can find Lisette working diligently nearly every Tuesday and Thursday morning. Using the resources the Writing and Reading Center provides, Lisette has improved both her grades and her confidence.





## BOOK CORNER CONT'D

rights to women, and all promoted universal free education. Most maintained libraries and allotted time for cultural events, music, and self improvement.

When appraising these movements from our vantage point, we are apt to be condescending. The writings of the various founders and leaders, which are copious, seem naive, and sometimes outright crackpot, and if I had to fault *Paradise Now*, it would be for an excess of these quotes. On the other hand, Jennings is mostly respectful of his subjects. He points out that many of the participants spoke the time spent in the communes as the highpoints of their lives.

I found Jennings's concluding chapter, *The Future Ain't What It Used to Be* insightful and beautifully written. But I found it sad, for while we may look down on the utopians, they were looking up, or rather, they were looking toward the future, toward utopia and paradise on earth. In comparison, what do we look forward to? According to Jennings, we look back. Today, rather than considering idealized futures, we are more likely to look longingly (and selectively) over our shoulder.....Instead of articulating extravagant dreams about the future, we think of the past. He quotes the philosopher Jovenal, *Every year we are better armed to achieve what we want. But what do we want?*

So please, dear students, read this book. (It's not in the FCC library. You can borrow mine) If you don't have time to read the whole thing, read the concluding chapter, and start planning our future (your future; I likely won't be around). Plan something noble, a truly great utopia. Get started now.



Grammar Bytes by Jenna Walther

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**HOMOPHONES:**

words having the SAME PRONUNCIATION but DIFFERENT MEANINGS, ORIGINS, or SPELLING

BY JENNA WALTHER

New: recent; not existing before

Knew: aware of; (past of know)

Allowed: permitted

Aloud: to speak audibly; not silently or in a whisper

Pail: a bucket

Pale: light in color or having little color

Vain: conceited or narcissistic

Vein: blood vessel

**Most Common Homophones**

**Your:** Possessive adjective: usually comes before a noun or pronoun; it shows that it BELONGS to “you”

**Example:** Sarah doesn’t look like your sister.

**You’re:** Contraction of you ARE

**Example:** You’re not going to that party.

**There:** a place, location. Not here, there.

**Example:** I will look for a hotel when I arrive there.

**Their:** Possessive adjective, shows possession; belongs to them

**Example:** Their house is big.

**They’re:** Contraction of they ARE

**Example:** I think they’re (they are) crazy.

**Who’s:** Contraction of who IS or who HAS

**Example:** Who’s that guy in the red tie?

(*Who IS that guy? No possession.*)

**Whose:** Possessive pronoun belonging to or associated with which person

**Example:** Is he the guy whose tie was red?

(*The guy has possession to the tie. That is why we use WHOSE.*)



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