

Bb Post Assignments

College Writing 2

The Blackboard Post Assignments due dates are listed on the syllabus. Each post uses the same basic process. For a post, you should write at least **450** words on your choice of reading in the textbook and make one comment.

Directions

1. Choose one essay you have read from our textbook.
2. Choose one thing in the essay that you feel a member of any social group (past, present, majority, or minority) might agree with, disagree with, or that might cause him/her an issue.
3. Indicate the title, author, and page and paragraph numbers of the quotation.
4. Indicate which **social group** you are writing about.
5. Quote a short passage that encapsulates the issue.
6. Write a 450-word comment explaining the issues in the quotation from the point of view of your chosen social group.
7. Wait for others to post; then, write a 4-sentence (minimum) comment on a post a classmate wrote. In that comment, quote something your classmate said, briefly compare the description to a situation you experienced. If you have never experienced a similar situation, propose a solution that might change the issue.

Notes: Do not summarize the entire text. **No research** should be done, so no citations should be used. Use only one quotation from one essay in the textbook. Comment and answer from your own opinion. When creating a post, it is best to type it in Word and then paste it into Blackboard so that you have a copy in case Bb crashes. Do not use attachments for the posts.

Turning in the Posts

These assignments will be posted in Blackboard. Each group has 6-8 members. Posting is easy. It works just like an email. From the “Course Tools” on the left side of the screen after logging into our Blackboard course site, choose “Bb Posts.” Click 3 times until you see a gray box reading “Create Thread.”

For the Subject of each post, please use the post number. See the example on the next page.

Bb Post Example (What You Write)

Subject: Post 1

Essay Title: “The Way to Wealth”

Author: Benjamin Franklin

Source: <https://financialmentor.com/wealth-building/wealth-program-system/the-way-to-wealth-by-benjamin-franklin/18247>

Social Group: Working Poor

“If time be of all things the most precious, wasting time must be, as Poor Richard says, the greatest prodigality; since, as he elsewhere tells us, Lost time is never found again; and what we call time enough, always proves little enough. Let us then up and be doing, and doing to the purpose; so by diligence shall we do more with less perplexity. Sloth makes all things difficult, but industry all easy; and He that riseth late must trot all day, and shall scarce overtake his business at night; while Laziness travels so slowly, that Poverty soon overtakes him. Drive thy business, let not that drive thee; and Early to bed, and early to rise, makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise, as Poor Richard says.”

Franklin writes about life simplistically. Hard work does not equal success. When Franklin wrote about sloth, he did not take into account that there are many parents who fall into the category called the working poor. This means that, even though these parents have jobs and work hard, they cannot earn enough money to live a comfortable life. In other words, they work long, hard hours, but still, they end up with very little. They work hard, but cannot always pay all of their bills or feed their families on what they earn. Hence, what Franklin says, is an insult to such people because they are not lazy. They are just not rich.

To misquote Franklin, poverty has overtaken them despite all of their efforts. Franklin wrote his essay a long time ago, it is true, but there must have been the working poor, even back then. The working poor get up and do things. They are industrious, but their poverty does not allow them to gain the skills or the training to be successful. Or sometimes life has just been cruel to them, and they had bad luck. The working poor would be very insulted by Franklin’s essay because he is blaming them, in a way, for something that they are not responsible for. They are stuck being poor.

Their lives are difficult not because of laziness, but because of other factors they cannot control. For some, a health problem may “rob” them of their money and make them homeless. For others, they might have been working in a job that is not done by machines. Still others may live in a part of the country (or in a country in the world) that offers few economic opportunities. In other words, the working poor are not lazy. Success has been stolen away from them. Franklin’s essay does not take that into account.

Comment Example (What Classmate Writes)

After reading what you wrote, “poverty has overtaken them despite all of their efforts,” I thought of a suggestion to change the issue. Franklin could have written a second essay that covers issues that the working poor face and then given suggestions about how they could improve their condition. He should also make a statement in “The Way to Wealth” indicating that it is not about the working poor.