

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 **400 words** on your choice of reading in the textbook and then post one reply to a classmate.

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 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 400-word comment explaining why you feel your chosen social group may be troubled (or caused trouble) by the passage.
7. Wait for others to post; then, write at least a **4-sentence comment** on a post a classmate wrote. In that comment, quote what your classmate said and disagree with it. In other words, you are writing a short counter-argument.

Notes : Do not summarize the entire text. **No research** should be done. 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 multiple members. Posting is easy. It works just like an email. All the "Course Tools" are on the left side of the screen after logging into our Blackboard course site. Click 5 times in total. Click on "Posts" then 3 more times until you see a gray box reading "Create Thread."

For the Subject of each post, please use the post number. See the example below.

Subject: Post 1

1. quotation.
2. source
3. 400 words
4. 4-sentence comment

Post Example

Subject: Post 1

Essay Title: "The Way to Wealth"

Author: Benjamin Franklin

Page: 379, Paragraph 6

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 writes, "Sloth makes all things difficult," he does 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

After reading what you wrote, "poverty has overtaken them despite all of their efforts," I disagree. I think the reason people are poor is because they are lazy. The working poor have a tough life, but they need to be very strong and work hard to improve their condition. There is no excuse to be lazy.