

expanding into a paper. Read it to your group, explaining as you go. Write down the group's suggestions and circle important items. Afterward, write one sentence that explains your paper's tentative thesis.

12. Which two brain teasers do you think would dig up the strongest ideas or details for the following topics? Without actually doing the brain teasers, describe what each will provide for your paper:

- A report to your boss about which software program the company should purchase
- A letter to a girlfriend/boyfriend breaking off the relationship
- A research paper for sociology class on the minimum wage
- A cover letter for a job application
- Your own home page or blog

13. Using any *two* brain teasers, develop two pages of ideas/details on one of these topics:

- Music videos
- Pornography
- City life
- A book you read recently
- People and their pets
- A first job

14. You wake up one morning and discover one of three changes in your life:

- You have aged 25 years. If you're over 50, you lose 25 years!
- Your gender has changed.
- Your species has changed.

Thinking from this alternative viewpoint, describe the next 20 minutes of your life accurately.

15. Your peer group's job is to write a bug list of what's wrong with high school, and then solve two of the problems.

16. Your peer group's job is to attack television stereotypes of business-people, one ethnic minority, teenagers, or police officers. Choose one, state the stereotypes, and then break them.

Student Essay

The following essay began from a sense brain teaser list. Read the essay

ENG 101 – COMMUNICATION ARTS I

GETTING IDEAS: Read Chapter 3

Think about what makes for lively, engaging writing. Fresh ideas are key. Everyone, even English composition teachers, wants to learn something and be engaged when we read, and if an essay has ideas and details only you have thought of, then you're going to have happy readers. This chapter is deceptively fun but important. My expectation is for you to try every one of these brainteasers, all signaled by a light bulb in the book margins (and other brainteasers have the light bulb throughout the book).

Writing Assignment Three: After you try out all of these brainteasers, use the most relevant ones to develop **ESSAY TWO: SOMETHING DIFFERENT!** 3 – 4 pages: page 71, #14 (choose one). You must also write separately 1 page listing and discussing the brainteasers you used to develop your essay. Consider what helped you get good ideas and let me know. Your total submission is 4 – 5 pages.