16/17 January 2017

image from http://www.earth4energy-reviews.org/wp-content/uploads/Windmill%20Animal%20Farm.jpg

Greetings, Wise Fools—

Here's how we'll roll today:

1. WEDGE—Now that you have completed your reading of George Orwell's novella, *Animal Farm,* take roughly ten minutes to record your thoughts and observations. The great American educational reformer, John Dewey, wrote, "We do not learn from experience... we learn from reflecting on experience." So: reflect upon your experience of reading *Animal Farm.* Instead of spitting out a series of mere opinions, try to support your claims with evidence and reasoning!

2. Crafting a Conversation Starter—When English classes discuss literature, one of the teacher's jobs is the lobbing out of a conversation starter. . . unless we can get students to do the work!

A provocative conversation starter presents a specific, open-ended question OR an initial interpretation. In either form, the conversation starter includes all the parts of a tenable argument: claim (or question) + textual evidence + reasoning. Today, you will assume responsibility for the conversation starters!

A. From the Moodle page, we will open up a document called "Questions for Digital Decentered Discourse on Animal Farm." We will read the instructions.

B. There are 13 questions/topics. We will count them off to members of the class. Some questions may have more than one student working on them.

C. Open up your book and a word-processing document.

D. Craft a conversation starter in response to your assigned question.
If you have prepared your notes on the novel well, this step should take you roughly 15 minutes.

3. Introduction to Digital Decentered Discourse—Only <u>after</u> you have polished up your conversation starter, use your favorite web browser to join a discussion in a GoogleDoc to which you have been invited via e-mail. For the bulk of today's class meeting, we will hold a discussion about *Animal Farm* in a virtual meeting space.
     A. Following the link in your e-mail, use your favorite word processor to navigate to the following pages GoogleDoc for your section.
     B. When you arrive at the GoogleDoc page, follow the instructions in order to participate.

4. Assessing the Digital Decentered Discourse—For the last 15 minutes of class, you will follow instructions for assessing your participation during today's class discussion. You will be asked to support a claim about the quantity and quality of your posts to the discussion. Instructions will arrive via e-mail.

Tappa! Tappa! Tappa!—
Mr Leo

Homework:
1. Return to the GoogleDoc discussion generated by your section and craft three (3) more posts to the transcript on the web page.
     a. Each post must be in the form of a complete tenable argument (claim + evidence + reasoning).
     b. Your three posts must respond to the work of classmates in three ddifferent question/topics from the list of thirteen original questions.

2. After posting your three additional posts to the GoogleDoc, collect your three new posts into a single word-processing document.

3. Save that document as "Three Final Posts to Animal Farm DDD."

4. Upload "Three Final Posts to Animal Farm DDD" to Turnitin.com prior to the start of our next class meeting.