**Discussion Forum 1 Instructions**

This course utilizes the Post-First feature in all Discussion Board Forums. This means you will only be able to read and interact with your classmates’ threads after you have submitted your thread in response to the provided prompt. For additional information on Post-First, click [here](http://www.liberty.edu/media/3415/cafe_website_2011/tutorials/S._Discussion_Board_Post_First.pdf) for a tutorial.

**Assignment**

In Module/Week 1, you will complete a discussion board that includes 2 parts. Part 1 includes a 75-100 word self-introduction and a 250-300 word rhetorical analysis of Kurt Vonnegut’s letter to the Chairman of the Drake School Board <https://lettersofnote.com/2012/03/30/i-am-very-real/>

. Part 2 includes a 150-200 word reply to a classmate’s thread. Word count does not include citations for the letter that needs to be cited according to your documentation style (APA, MLA, or Turabian).

**Prompt**

**Part I:** Complete a self-introduction and after reviewing the information in the textbook readings and in the study folder about the Rhetorical Situation of an argument, post a thread that includes your self-introduction and rhetorical analysis of Kurt Vonnegut’s letter.

**A. Self-Introduction** (Approximately 75-100 words)

Introduce yourself to others in the course by posting a thread containing the following information:

* Where you live (state or country only)
* Family, hobbies/interests, and anything else you want to share about yourself
* Which specific degree you are pursuing
* Your plan after this course (For example: How many courses to graduation? Do you plan to begin a new job as a result of your degree? Do you plan to continue your education towards a higher degree?)
* What you would like to learn from this course?

**B. Rhetorical Analysis of** Kurt Vonnegut’s letter to the Chairman of the Drake School Board**.** (250-300 words)

Read Kurt Vonnegut’s letter to the Chairman of the Drake School online at: <https://lettersofnote.com/2012/03/30/i-am-very-real/>

Write a rhetorical analysis to Vonnegut’s letter in a 250-300 word response considering the following information:

* Rhetorical Rhombus (purpose, audience, subject, writer/speaker)
* Aristotelian Appeals (ethos, pathos, logos)
* Cite at least three specific examples of support from the letter.
* Format your citations according to your documentation style (APA, MLA, or Turabian).

**Part II: Reply to Classmate**(150-200 words)

Reply to a classmate’s post with a 150-200 word response containing the following information:

* 1-3 sentences responding to the introduction part of your classmate’s post.
* The remainder of the post should be your reply to your classmate’s rhetorical analysis of the speech.
* Use the principles of argument either to rebut or to support your classmate’s ideas.
* Address specific points regarding your classmate’s content about the Rhetorical Rhombus elements (purpose, audience, subject, writer/speaker) and the Aristotelian Appeals (ethos, pathos, logos).
* Statements such as, “I like what you said” or “I disagree with your comment,” do not count as replies. You must explain why you liked or disliked the thread by adding additional thoughts or ideas if you agreed with the author or by providing alternative ideas or thoughts when you disagree.
* Keep in mind that, regardless of whether you agree or disagree with your classmates’ opinions, you must be respectful and courteous in every interaction. For more on proper discussion, consult the netiquette policy found in the Student Expectations link of this course.

Review the Discussion Board Forum Grading Rubric before submitting.

Submit your thread by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Thursday of Module/Week 1. Submit your reply by 11:59 p.m. (ET) on Monday of the same module/week.