



RWS 100: Paper #3 Prompt

Join the Conversation!

Construct your own argument within the rhetorical context of Carr, Thompson, & Boyd (8-9 pages)

Rough draft due: December 6

Final draft due: December 13

Instructor Conferences: December 8

It's time to "Join the Conversation!" This assignment asks you to select a point of difference, disagreement or connection between Boyd, Thompson, and Carr that you find significant or interesting. You will use this point of intersection to launch *your own* argument and contribution to this debate. Your paper should use outside sources (and/or data you collect) to support your position, and should explain how your argument adds to the "conversation." That is, you should explain how your paper **extends, illustrates, clarifies, complicates or qualifies** an issue or question taken up by the authors. The paper thus follows the *They Say/I Say* framework described by Graff and Birkenstein.

(When discussing what others have said ("They Say") include some evaluation of the texts. Your position may be that the authors' arguments are effective in different ways, that one argument is superior to the others, or that all contain significant shortcomings.)

How You Structure Your Paper is Up to You

However, make sure that you:

- ❑ Establish the rhetorical situation and the relationship between the texts
- ❑ Use the They Say/I Say framework (and templates) to set up your own rhetorical situation
- ❑ Include a clearly stated thesis which lays out your argument and its relationship to our class texts using one of these rhetorical terms: **extends, illustrates, clarifies, complicates, or qualifies**
- ❑ Keep in mind who your audience is (your academic peers), to craft an argument using language, evidence, tone, and style to persuade them
- ❑ Include evaluation of the texts that you mention, analyzing their rhetorical strengths and weaknesses as a whole
- ❑ Utilize at least two rhetorical strategies in your argument
- ❑ Use at least 3 outside sources for evidence to support your argument
- ❑ Use an effective structure that guides your reader from one idea to the next, conclude your thoughts cohesively, and edit your writing so it is comprehensible and appropriate for an academic audience
- ❑ Bring your own point of view to your paper and support it!



As always, the Modern Language Association (MLA) format is a must:

- Times New Roman, size 12 font
 - Double Spaced with 1" margins
 - Page numbers
 - Works Cited page
 - Stapled
-